

HOME NEWS

Pressure by local authorities has weakened ministry of guidance on homelessness

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Pressure from local authority associations has weakened the new code of guidance to be published on Monday under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act.

The final draft, which the code is understood to follow closely, no longer emphasizes the Government's view that bed and breakfast should be used for homeless families only as a last resort, nor does it emphasize as strongly as earlier versions that homeless families must be given permanent accommodation as soon as possible.

Most crucially, the final draft has deleted the statement of principles first made in a 1974 circular which the Government issued to try to persuade local authorities to change their policies towards the homeless.

The first draft code echoed the circular in saying: "Homelessness is almost always the extreme form of housing need for any family or individual. All those who are homeless should be helped to secure accommodation by advice, by preventive action or by the provision of some form of accommodation."

Also excluded is the statement that for priority groups "the issue is not whether, but by what means, a housing authority should secure that accommodation is available".

The final draft does, however, give much greater emphasis to the importance of accommodation for battered wives and stresses that local housing authorities should be ready to extend the "fullest assistance" to homeless young people who are not specified in the Act as a priority group for whom they are obliged to find accommodation.

The code will, in effect, be the first government circular to have statutory backing for the new Act provides that local authorities "shall have regard" to guidance issued under it. The Act, which takes effect in England and Wales on December 1, became necessary because more than a third of local authorities failed to implement the 1974 circular.

The main purpose of the Act is to place a duty on housing authorities to provide accommodation for homeless people, transferring responsibility from social service departments. That duty to provide accommodation, which the code makes clear should usually be permanent, applies to homeless people who fall into one of the priority groups specified in the Act and who have not made themselves homeless intentionally.

That last condition was inserted in the final stages of the Bill and has led to the inclusion of a specific section in the final draft of the code of guidance. Three conditions must be

met before a housing authority decides that an applicant is intentionally homeless.

The applicant must have deliberately done, or failed to do, something that has either made him homeless or is likely to force him to leave accommodation. It must have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy that accommodation; and he must have been aware of all the relevant facts.

Thus anyone who deliberately sells his home or gives up a tenancy has become homeless intentionally. But anyone obliged to sell because he could not keep up the mortgage repayments, or one who gets into rent arrears because of real financial difficulties, should not be regarded as deliberately homeless, the draft says.

A battered woman fleeing her home should never be regarded as having become homeless intentionally, the draft code says. Nor should people who have been driven to leave their accommodation because of overcrowding, lack of basic amenities or severe emotional stress.

People who get into rent arrears not knowing they are entitled to rent allowances or rebates or other benefits should be regarded as being "unaware of relevant facts".

The Act makes clear that it is for the housing authority to satisfy themselves whether someone who approaches them became homeless or threat-

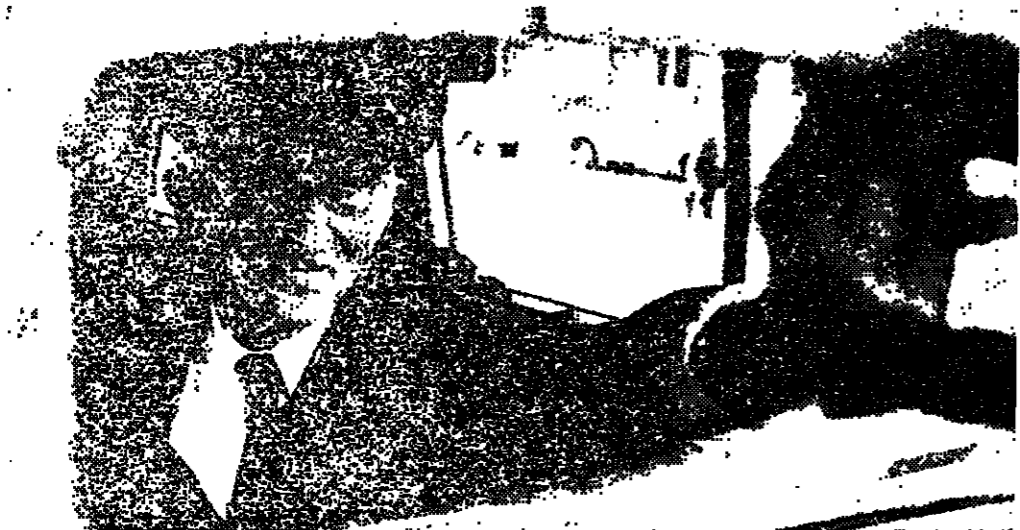
ened with homelessness intentionally, the final draft says. "The onus is not on the applicant to satisfy the authority that he did not do so. . . . Authorities should in any case where there is doubt afford the benefit of the doubt to the applicant."

The final draft explains in much more detail the priority groups who must be given accommodation once an authority is satisfied that they meet the basic conditions. They are, broadly, families with children, battered women, pregnant women, those made homeless by emergencies such as fire, flood or other disasters and people vulnerable because of old age, mental or physical infirmities or other special reasons.

For such groups, housing authorities must secure that accommodation is available.

If the loss of previous shelter cannot be prevented the authority is required to ensure that some form of accommodation continues to be available for those in priority need.

Accommodation is "available" only if it is big enough to accommodate the entire family, the draft says. The practice of splitting families is not acceptable, even for short periods. The social cost, personal hardship and long-term damage to children, as well as the expense involved in receiving children into care, is this out as an acceptable course.



Mr Henry Hall: secrets of a chauffeur in a hurry.

A driving force is recognized

By Peter Hennessy

Any Russian spy worth his roubles would be wise to concentrate his attentions not only on errant Cabinet ministers and Philipps in the Secret Intelligence Service but on the splendid body of men and women who make up the drivers of the government car pool. For the acquisition of gossip and hard information they are in a position second to none.

Mr Henry Hall, doyen of the car pool, who received the Imperial Service Medal from Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday, refuses, like the old soldier he is, to

accept that proposition ("I would stake my life on 90 per cent of the lads here") as Mr Hall, who retired last May, began working life as groom in the Royal Engineers. Once, when he had a "bull and a cow" (row) with Lord Carrington's detective, about smoking in the car, the policeman threatened to reveal to the Secretary of State his guilty secret. Mr Hall, he maintained, had never lost the habit of grooming only the side of the horse upon which the officer mounted. Lord Carrington's side of the car would gleam in the sunlight while the other half was caked with mud.

"Of course, when you are in a hurry you clean only his side of the car. But I always groomed both sides of the horse; the horse came first," Mr Hall insisted yesterday.

Apart from teaching Lord Carrington rhyming slang, Mr

Hall provided him with much diversion. "Lord C", or "the man", as Mr Hall calls him, was due to travel from an engagement at Grosvenor House to Madame Tussaud's. To the Chamber of Horrors, Hall, he said, as he climbed in. Forgetting the original instruction, Mr Hall drove him to the House of Lords. Lord Carrington dined out on the story for months.

Another minister of whom he has fond memories is Mr Mason, now Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. "He was always telling you about the mines and Barnsley bitter. He used to give black pudding and bitter to the generals at parties. They loved it."

Mr Hall remains beloved in Whitehall. As Mr Mulley said at the presentation, it sometimes seemed that Mr Hall, driver, counsellor and friend to the mighty, actually ran the ministry as well.

Sir Georg has high hopes for the LPO

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

Sir Georg Solti said yesterday when he takes over as principal conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra in 1979 he will attempt to build an international orchestra on a par with the Berlin Philharmonic, the Vienna Philharmonic and the Chicago Symphony.

Some people in London might argue that the LPO could already bear such comparison, but when Sir Georg spoke yesterday no one dissented from the proposal that he should repeat in England what he has achieved in America as chief conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Sir Georg said there was enough talent in London to create a truly international orchestra but that could be done only if the right conditions were provided for the orchestral musicians, and that meant considerably reducing the pressure of work on them.

He complained bitterly about the conditions; they could go forty or fifty days without a day off, "which is quite impossible". They worked about 600 sessions a year in London, compared with half that number in Chicago.

Since he did not want to reduce the work at the expense of cutting the musicians' income there had to be extra funds, which should not be found by doing "not quite first-class work".

Mr Eric Bravington, the LPO's managing director, said the orchestra had to keep pumping its case to the Arts Council and the Greater London Council for more financial help. Subsidies in Britain were only a tiny proportion of those for the big foreign orchestras, he said.

Sir Georg added: "I have very good hopes that business support will enable major cultural institutions like the LPO to flourish." He argued that there ought to be tax concessions, as in the United States, on charitable donations.

Bernard Haitink, the retiring principal conductor, will return regularly as guest conductor. Klaus Tennstedt, the German conductor, and Mstislav Rostropovich, the Russian conductor, will also conduct the orchestra for a period each year.

Legislation in the present parliamentary session to reform the matrimonial law administered by magistrates' courts will remove the disadvantages when compared with divorce proceedings in the higher courts was announced by Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, in the House of Lords yesterday.

The anomalies criticized by the Finer committee would be removed by the new Bill, which would also introduce a number of other reforms intended to increase the range of relief available from magistrates' courts.

A two-year delay to the report was due to uncertainty caused by the publication of consultative documents and a White Paper on the reorganization of the water industry, the Department of the Environment said.

The report observes that by far the largest item in the arrears of maintenance is the need for bank protection. To avoid erosion and disintegration some form of protective revetment is generally necessary, and half of those revetments require replacement or repair.

The report concludes that there is scope for dealing with two or three times the present volume of freight traffic in craft able to use the present locks. But on cruising waterways there are already signs of congestion in certain places at peak periods and if the present rate of growth continues relief facilities might become necessary.

A necessary organization. Professor Kenneth Alexander, chairman of the board, said: "This will not be an easy job. It is a long-term programme, which, if proved worthwhile, will strengthen the islands' social and economic fabric."

Such cooperatives had not been attempted in Scotland, although they were operating in Ireland. The schemes were not confined to one activity but could cover hotels, knitwear factories, market gardens, and the provision of services and organization of social facilities.

The cooperatives might also be eligible for grant aid and other normal assistance through the board's loan scheme. A handbook in English and Gaelic has been published, giving the details of the scheme.

Child poverty 'worse under Labour'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government is likely to go into the next election facing the accusation that child families have become poorer under Labour. Mr Frank Field, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said yesterday.

Mr Field, who was criticized for helping to humble Labour in 1970 by accusing it of making the poor poorer, said that falling a big increase in child benefits next April, a new campaign showing how all families had become poorer would be launched.

He said that the net weekly gain to families of the last two Budgets was only 30p a child.

Giving the Quetta Rabley Memorial Lecture at South-west College, Mr Field said children had received only £330m of the £3,500m handed out in tax concessions.

Since 1974 the index had risen from 100 to 151 for a single person, to 168 for a married couple, but to only 145 for a family with four children. Discrimination against families was evident.

Families with children had incomes only marginally higher than those of single people once the net effects of tax and benefits were taken into account.

£5m allocated for urgent repairs to waterways

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Government is to allocate £5m to the British Waterways Board for urgently needed repairs and maintenance. Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, told the Commons yesterday. It will form part of the £400m that Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, earmarked for the construction industry in his statement last week.

In reply to a question by Mr Kenneth Weetch, Labour MP for Ipswich, Mr Shore said the board had not been able, within its available financial resources, to comply fully with its statutory and other obligations. A report released yesterday recommended that about £5m should be spent in the next three years in the interests of public safety.

The reference to public safety must be taken to imply that the Government is seriously concerned about the risk of breaches and consequent flooding from nineteenth-century canals and reservoirs, which have, at best, received only slight attention.

In the report, by a firm of

private consultants, Peter Fraenkel and Partners, arrears of maintenance are assessed at £37,300m up to the end of 1977 at 1974 prices (equivalent to about £60m today). Future costs are put at £70m up to 1989 (again in 1974 terms) and £8.8m annually thereafter, which Mr Shore described as very substantial sums.

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Reforms coming in marriage law

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The anomalies criticized by the Finer committee would be removed by the new Bill, which would also introduce a number of other reforms intended to increase the range of relief available from magistrates' courts.

Payments 'necessary in Middle East to get sales'

Commission payments to secure overseas sales are absolutely necessary in some Middle East countries, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Sir Lester Suffield, former head of the Ministry of Defence sales organization and formerly with British Leyland, said, however, that there would never be any question of a British company's paying commission to the British Government to further sales.

Lieutenant-Colonel David Randel, aged 40, of the Royal Signals, Aldershot; Geoffrey Wellburn, aged 40, of Woodside Road, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire; and Frank Nurdon, aged 60, of Barnet Road, Arkley, Hertfordshire, all deny corruption charges.

Mr Wellburn was managing director of Rascal BCC Ltd, of Wembley, which specializes in electronic and communication equipment. Mr Nurdon was the sales director.

The prosecution allege that Colonel Randel took about £25,000 in bribes to ensure that BCC radio equipment was bought and installed in Chieftain tanks sold to Iran.

There had been no suggestion, or hint as far as he knew, of Mr Nurdon or Rascal BCC being concerned in anything like that in Britain.

He was not aware of any payments made to officials of foreign countries by the Crown agents, Millbank Technical Services.

The trial continues today.

Fund-matching plan for community cooperatives

From Ronald Faux
Inverness

Community cooperatives to inject local industry into the Western Isles are to be encouraged by the Highlands and Islands Development Board. The board announced yesterday that about £100,000 would be available to help people to reap the benefits of their own resources provided they presented soundly based schemes.

The key was the community itself and would involve an investment of time, effort and locally raised capital. Communities presenting convincing programmes and sufficient local funds could be matched pound for pound by the board.

Two field officers will lead the work and set up the

necessary organization. Professor Kenneth Alexander, chairman of the board, said: "This will not be an easy job. It is a long-term programme, which, if proved worthwhile, will strengthen the islands' social and economic fabric."

Such cooperatives had not been attempted in Scotland, although they were operating in Ireland. The schemes were not confined to one activity but could cover hotels, knitwear factories, market gardens, and the provision of services and organization of social facilities.

The cooperatives might also be eligible for grant aid and other normal assistance through the board's loan scheme. A handbook in English and Gaelic has been published, giving the details of the scheme.



Have you been affected by the industrial dispute at BOC?

If so you will be glad to know that we are beginning to resume deliveries of industrial gases. We are, however, faced with an enormous backlog of demand and it may take some weeks before we are completely up to date.

To help us make the return to normal as quick and painless as possible, we ask for your help and patience in the following ways.

Please tolerate deliveries at odd times

We'll be running overtime delivery shifts to cope with the abnormal load so we shall ask you if you would accept deliveries out of working hours or at weekends but only if it is convenient to you.

Please do not stock-pile

however tempting it may be. We will be able to restore normal deliveries more quickly if you order only what you need.

Please return as many empties as you can

You won't lose out on future supplies. You'll be entitled to full cylinders in exchange later as soon as they become available.

We should like to thank you for your understanding and support and ask you for continued patience for just a few more weeks.

NatWest opens in Aberdeen.

Recognising the growing importance of Aberdeen internationally, National Westminster Bank is pleased to be able to offer its worldwide service as well as local banking facilities through the new Branch at 262 Union Street.

Enquiries on the many services available will be very welcome.

Manager: Grahame Yule. Telephone: (0224) 26364.

Other branches in Scotland

Edinburgh:

80 George Street

Telephone: 031-226 6181

Manager:

Malcolm V. Fortune.

Glasgow:

14 Blythswood Square

Telephone: 041-204 1491

Manager:

Roy W. Seager.

National Westminster Bank

HOME NEWS

Rules on architects' fee scales 'against the public interest'

By John Huxley
Business News Staff

Rules that prevent architects and surveyors from quoting competitive fees are acting against the public interest, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission concludes in two reports published yesterday.

The commission was satisfied that more than a third of architects' and surveyors' services were supplied by those who calculated fees according to an agreed scale and thereby conducted their affairs so as to restrict competition.

It says that fee scales, in particular those determined by the suppliers of services and supported by rules prohibiting competition, could not be relied on to produce a charge reasonably related to the amount of work and skills involved in any one job.

Rules of associations that prevented competitive quotation of fees deprived clients of the opportunity to obtain comparative estimates. Thus fees were maintained at a higher level than they might otherwise be.

A statement from the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, said that Mr Hattersley, the Secretary of State, would ask the Director General of Fair Trading to investigate the matter and to recommend amendments to the rules governing fee scales.

Mr Fraser, Minister of State at the department, said Mr Hattersley expected to receive the recommendations within six months.

The reports, the result of a four-year study by the commission, recommended that the professional bodies should abolish rules requiring members to adhere to fee scales. Instead, they should be allowed to quote freely in competition.

On architects, the commission concludes that the "system of mandatory scales, together with rules which prevent competition for business on the basis

of fees, operates against the public interest and should be brought to an end."

Recommended scales, the commission suggests, should be determined by an independent committee comprising a chairman and three or four members appointed by the Government. The same committee might conveniently perform similar duties in relation to recommended scales of charges for some surveyors' services.

The fee-scale structure of architects, based on a percentage of the cost of works, has long been a subject of controversy. Yesterday's report is a contribution to a debate that began in 1957 when the Government decided to restrict the level of architects' costs and fees to the National Board for Prices and Incomes.

The board's report, published a year later, recommended that the fee scale should not be mandatory and that an independent review body should draw up a recommended scale. Negotiations were begun with the Royal Institute of British Architects on the basis of the board's recommendations, but an impasse was reached on the suggestion that the fee scale should not be mandatory. The government decided that the issue should be put in abeyance.

In evidence to the commission, the institute, which represents the vast majority of architects in the United Kingdom, argued that abandonment of mandatory scales might lead to widespread fee-cutting, especially during a recession. That, it was suggested, would have damaging effects on the supply of architects' services and on professional standards.

The institute did concede, however, that there might be imperfections in its present scales of charges. It said it would be happy to see—indeed, wished to see—an independent review body set up if the commission reported in favour of retaining the mandatory fee scale.

Architects' Services and Surveyors' Services (Stationery Office, £2.85 each).

Tenants pay up rent after bailiffs move in

From Arthur Osman
Droitwich

Legal advice has been sought by some tenants in council houses at Droitwich about the new and intensive use of distraint orders as a matter of policy by Wychavon District Council to recover rent arrears.

Yesterday it was said that injunctions were being considered against the private bailiffs being employed by the council to enforce orders.

It was also suggested that more of the nine district council councils in Hereford and Worcester were watching events at Wychavon and were intending to employ the same methods. Wychavon is mainly rural and has 9,600 council properties, an annual rent income of £4m and net arrears of £54,000. The number of tenants owing a month's rent or more is 302.

In the past few days distraint orders have been issued, most of them on the Boyton Estate, in Droitwich. The population is mostly young, and there is much unemployment. Social workers say the number of broken marriages is increasing because of poor job opportunities and the economic climate.

Rents vary between £12 and £14 a week and are said to be the highest in Wychavon for three-story houses.

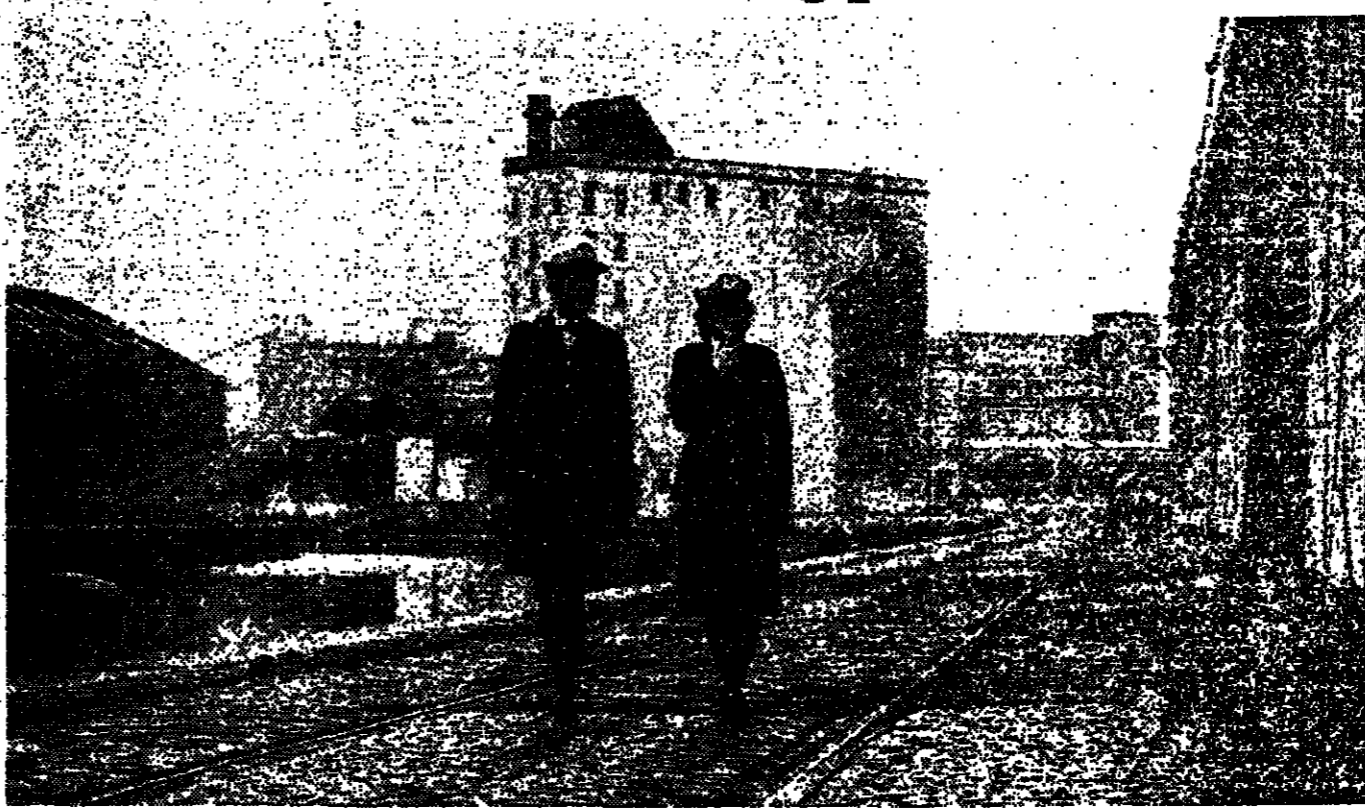
The country's social services department was critical of the use of bailiffs and Mr Graham Codden, Shaker's housing aid officer in the Midlands, protested to the Department of the Environment.

So far 64 of the 71 orders have been served and 20 recipients have paid off arrears; another 40 have reached an agreement with the bailiffs to pay of arrears at between £5 and £10 a week after lower offers had been refused. One family had disappeared and two had had furniture destroyed.

Average arrears were about 10 weeks and Mr Godden said one man, who was more than £450 behind with his rent, had taken out a financial loan to clear it off and had got himself further into debt.

On Monday the council's housing committee reaffirmed its new policy and yesterday Mr J. W. Fisher, the housing manager, said: "The sort of situation we were in involved, for example, 12 visits in one case without any payment. Eventually my people got fed up and instructed me to employ bailiffs."

"It has had a remarkably salutary effect, with many of the 300 in arrears already coming forward to settle up,

On the beat, 4 Sex Discrimination Act has integrated police duties
Women shoulder increasing part of burden

Police Constables Jane Dawes and Vivien Edwards (holding radio) on patrol in Moss Side, Manchester.

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Over the personal radio of Constable Jane Dawes comes a request for duty cars in the neighbourhood to go to trouble that has broken out in a cafe. We are patrolling in a Mini-Fanda almost on the spot.

WPC Dawes knows that this is one of the toughest places in Manchester, typical of the crumbling inner city areas fuelling Britain's high crime rate. There is plenty of violence in the area covered by the division, including six murders so far this year. Yet 15 per cent of foot patrol officers there are women.

The constable pauses momentarily before pushing open the cafe door to glance at the expectant faces of the youngsters round the pool tables. She is outnumbered by about 20 to one. She says later that she recognized some of them, otherwise she would have thought twice about going in without aid.

A couple of Pakistanis come from behind the counter talking rapidly in broken English. A white man with a broken nose chimes in. Youths raise their voices. She does nothing except listen, an oasis of calm, asking a question or two quietly. The din subsides.

Then more policemen arrive. A couple of youngsters leave, protesting that it was all a joke really and that the Pakis-

tanis reacted too strongly and came out with a billiard cue. The possibility of worse trouble has been soothed away. "I'll ask the local policeman to call and have a chat," is her farewell remark.

WPC Dawes is 26 and has been in the force for six years. Her first job on duty that night was to see about a theft.

A blank-faced blonde clutching a pink hair-brush told her she had discharged herself from a mental hospital. She showed bruises on her arm and said she could not return home to face her husband, who had ill-treated her. She had ended up the previous night in a club where her handbag full of drugs had been stolen. All day she had been looking for it.

She says she had thought of throwing herself from one of the bleak blocks of flats. "Don't throw yourself under a Mini," WPC Dawes says, not callously, but seeking rapport. Back in the police station, she says faintly: "Don't throw yourself out of the window." (She could not, anyway; they do not open far enough.)

All the time the police-woman is lessening tension, making such ideas seem absurd, it works. After patient, she calls to the woman's doctor, to social workers, trying to find somewhere for her to stay, they drive into Manchester to a hostel.

Part of the job is saving people from the worst they can do to themselves. Much of the rest is saving them from the worst they can do to each other.

On foot patrol in the same area, WPC Vivien Edwards, aged 19 and with a year's service, up, if she sees something different, a gate open at the rear of a shop, she goes in, all 5ft 5in of her.

There is no false bravado. She knows what it is like being assaulted. "I was searching a female prisoner when she lashed out suddenly."

On January 1, 1976, two days after the Act came into force, there were 408 women officers in Greater Manchester, compared with 5,497 men. There are now 658 women and 5,652 men. More than half the probationers in the force (officers with less than two years' service) are women, compared with a third on January 1, 1976.

The proportion of foot patrol officers who are women has risen up to 21 per cent in one division in Greater Manchester. In the last 12 months 28 women in the force were seriously assaulted.

Police pay, page 16

PERCENTAGE OF FEMALE STAFF
England and Wales

1971 11.8 1972 12.5 1973 13.2 1974 14.8 1975 15.5 1976 16.8 1977 18.5

£18m road plan awaits hunt for lost legion

By Philip Howard

The rescue dig at Magiovinium has started as the bulldozers of the Department of Transport, which announced yesterday that the archaeological exploration will last for at least six months.

After that its contractors will move in to divert the A5 (Walling Street) through the centre of Milton Keynes.

The diversion has been designed to avoid the scheduled area of the Roman town of Magiovinium, after 1,500 years. However, archaeologists consider that the area, delineated from aerial photographs, is far too small, and that important Roman remains extend beyond the line of the new road.

Archaeologists from the Ancient Monuments Secretariat of the Department of the Environment will dig to see whether they are right.

Magiovinium is a name of mystery from the early days of the Roman invasion. Its position, straddling Walling Street and flanked by the river Ouzel, was identified only by the distance intervals on the Antonine Itinerary. Preliminary excavations have found foundations of large structures far outside the perimeter of the ancient monument. There are reasons for supposing that the road will cut through a previously unknown Claudian fort.

If more evidence is found, the fort may have been that of the Roman Legion which held the centre of the Plautian Fosse Way frontier about AD 47. Another possibility is that a garrison was maintained at Magiovinium after the Roman advance to Wales.

The archaeologists have a brief opportunity in the difficult conditions of mid-winter to discover traces of the lost legion.

The 10-mile diversion will cost more than £18m.

Eligibility for free school meals widens next week

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

The Government is to launch an extensive multi-lingual publicity campaign next week to inform parents of their entitlement over free school meals. From next Monday, when the supplementary benefit rates go up, parents with two children and an income of up to £70 a week (£3,640 a year) will become eligible for a free meal for any child of school age.

That means that about 500,000 more children will be entitled to a free school meal or nearly half as many again as the number eligible before the Government's announcement in August that the cost of a school meal was to rise from 15p to 25p at the beginning of the autumn term.

At the same time in August it was announced that the income levels for eligibility for a free school meal were to be raised so that parents with two children earning up to £60 a week would qualify. But few have taken up their new entitlement and the Government has been criticized for not advertising the new eligibility limits sufficiently widely or clearly.

Provisional figures based on an October census of pupils show an increase in applications for free school meals of only about 13 per cent. A census in October last year showed that 839,000 pupils were receiving free school meals. That was only about three quarters of those believed to be eligible.

Returns from the most recent census, which is not yet complete, also indicate that there has been a drop of 15 per cent in school meals after the recent price increase. Last October, when the price was still 15p, 5,836 children were taking school meals, representing just over two thirds of all children in maintained schools.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in the Commons debate on the Queen's Speech last Friday that the new scales to be introduced on Monday would mean that a quarter of the nine million schoolchildren in England and Wales would be entitled to a free meal.

The Government is to issue leaflets about the new scales in Urdu, Gujarati, Punjabi, Hindi, Bengali, Greek and Chinese, as well as in English and Welsh.

If you smell gas, remember the simple safety rules:-

- * Don't smoke or use naked flames.
- * Don't operate electrical switches on or off.
- * Do open doors and windows.
- * Then check that you haven't left the gas on and unlit—or that a pilot light has not gone out.

If you suspect a gas leak, turn off the supply at the meter—and report the leak. Do this at once.

The number's in the telephone directory under Gas—and we're on call 24 hours a day.

We'll come quickly and deal with the problem. And if you smell gas at work or in the street, please report it at once. Don't leave it to someone else.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU—24 HOURS A DAY

Ask at your local gas showroom for our free booklet 'Help Yourself To Gas Safety', which describes the full range of services we provide.

Unemployed youth 'fare better than most'

By Annabel Ferriman

Youth unemployment does not warrant greater public concern, intervention or cash than that of any other generation, according to a new survey by Political and Economic Planning published today.

Men in their thirties and forties with children suffer most from being out of work, and their families suffer with them. Employers should be subsidized to take them on, it says.

Its authors, a summary of whose findings are published in today's *New Society*, traced and reinterviewed people who were unemployed in 1973 and whom they had first talked to for the National Survey of the Unemployed that year.

When the samples were seen again in 1976 the older people were less likely to have had some work in the meantime and were more likely to have taken worse jobs than they had done previously.

The young had fared better than other people in every way. Where they were in work they had had by far the biggest increase in earnings, compared with their 1973 pay, and their jobs were likely to have been upgraded.

One striking fact that emerged was that they were very likely to have changed jobs. A quarter of those aged between 18 and 23 had three or more jobs in those three years. About 11 per cent had had five or more.

In the case of older men, those who were unskilled or semi-skilled and had no work, one child appeared to do worse of all. The authors suggest that child dependency allowances led them to seek higher levels of pay and therefore to be out of work longer.

In the FEP sample the family men aged between 25 and 54 were generally unskilled, low-paid when in work, prone to ill health or disabled. The factor that seemed to determine whether they found work in the three-year period appeared to be how many children they had, those with more children having worked less.

That led the authors to conclude that the level of dependency allowance is of the utmost importance and their conclusion was borne out by two other pieces of evidence.

First, PEP found both in 1973 and 1976 that the minimum pay requirements of those out of work were strongly related to the levels of their benefit income, while the married men with children had worked in the three-year period the level of pay had been consistently higher the more children they had.

The authors find these results disturbing in relation to public policy, because of the long-term effects on those out of work. While in the short term their actions might be logical, in the long term they would undermine the benefit which has no way of improving their income by overtime or promotion and their lives are often a constant battle to make ends meet.

The authors say one solution might be to subsidize jobs for the longer term, unskilled unemployed. Other possibilities include the introduction of a system of negative income tax. Where are they now? (By W. W. Daniel and Elizabeth Sillars, available from PEP, 12 Upper Belgrave Street, London SW1X 8BS, £4, plus 25p postage and packing.)

Our Political Correspondent writes: Present policies of the government on youth unemployment are too piecemeal when viewed against the background of EEC initiatives, the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities says in a report published yesterday.

"We would like to see an immediate commitment to a policy of school-based preparation for work and work-based continuation of education for all young people," it said. "This should be within the framework of overall economic policy aimed at full employment."

8th Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities: Youth Unemployment (Stationery Office, £1.85).

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WEST EUROPE

Overfishing by French reason for Norway bar on British ships

By Ronald Kershaw
Northern Industrial
Correspondent

A dispute is about to break out among EEC fishing nations, after British trawlers were ordered to leave the Arctic fishing grounds of north Norway at midnight last Saturday, because Community cod quotas had been exceeded.

The British fishermen's claim that they still have 2,500 tonnes of their allocation of cod to catch has been rejected by the Norwegians, who have indicated that French vessels have already taken it. The British Fishing Federation is forecasting idle ships and higher unemployment and is demanding that Mr. Silkin, the Minister of Agriculture, ask the EEC for compensation.

A Federation spokesman said last night: "We are furious. Once again we have been playing the game and once again it looks as though we have been cheated."

Losing the cod catch which trawler companies had carefully planned to take them to the end of the year, when new quotas would be agreed, is doubly grievous because other EEC states are only permitted to fish in Norwegian waters in return for British allowing Norway to fish in British waters.

The spokesman said that Norway, frustrated by the EEC's inability to reach any agreement on fishing, had unilaterally set a total target of 54,800 tonnes of cod for the EEC in the Norwegian 200-mile zone, north of the sixty-second parallel. "She blew the whistle on Saturday night when records showed that EEC trawlers had

caught 55,059 tonnes. It was confirmed in Oslo that EEC vessels would not be allowed to return this year," he said.

The EEC had decided that the 18,500 tonnes of cod left for the period between September 1 and the end of the year should comprise 13,000 tonnes for Britain, 3,200 tonnes for France and 2,300 tonnes for West Germany. Britain had caught just under 10,400 tonnes when the ban was imposed on Saturday, according to ministry records here. Norwegian records showed that France and West Germany had taken 8,300 tonnes, about 2,800 tonnes more than their joint quota.

The fishing federation spokesman said last night: "Norway has made no secret of the fact that the French and the Germans are the culprits, although Norway's only concern is the total EEC quota. The implications are just beginning to sink in. There is now a race for the vessels to catch as much as possible in the next few days and they will not go to sea again this year. Some 60 vessel trips have been lost and the chances are cod will be unobtainable by Christmas."

He continued: "When Mr. Silkin goes to Brussels for the next round of talks, idle ships lining our quays and shore workers swelling unemployment figures will provide eloquent proof of what we have been saying all along—quotas don't work. The rest of the world already knows that it seems Britain must suffer more than its fair share of social and economic misery before the EEC will accept reality."

Leading article, page 17

Bonn police take fancy to British armoured car

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Nov 9

The West German police are pressing for British armoured patrol cars to replace the forbidding and, they say, inadequate personnel carriers which make Bonn look like an occupied city.

The ugly tank-like SWTs which guard certain Government buildings, embassies and ministers' homes against possible terrorist attacks are "torque chambers" for their occupants and a danger to traffic, the police union's North Rhine-Westphalian branch claims.

The crew, including the driver, can only see out of slits and a colleague has to sit on top when it is moving to give directions. The brakes often fail and it is impossible to shoot accurately from inside the vehicle.

In winter the man on the turret freezes and in summer the steel-clad vehicle is like an oven. It leaks when raining and, for the same reason, is not

petrol-bomb proof, a union spokesman said.

The union is suggesting that the North Rhine-Westphalian government, which is in charge of the city's security, should buy the Shorland Mk. armoured patrol car, which was developed for police use in Northern Ireland.

Union representatives have examined models being used by the Dutch police at Amsterdam airport and are enthusiastic. Its higher speed and mobility, lower consumption of fuel and greater range of action made it highly suitable for Bonn, they declared.

For psychological reasons they also prefer its appearance—the Shorland looks like a modified Land Rover.

"The SWTs do not give a good impression; we would like something less military," the spokesman added. No comment was available from the North Rhine-Westphalian Land Government but it was understood that they have also been making inquiries about the Shorland.

Sir Christopher Soames criticizes lack of information

Appeal for people to be told what EEC membership really means

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Nov 9

The present analysis in the European Community did not arise so much from its economic crisis as from the fact that member governments, especially those of the larger countries, refused to give it its due, Sir Christopher Soames, a vice-president of the Commission until the end of last year, said here today.

"They do not make into account the European dimension and tend to attribute all that is positive in it to their own action, and all that is negative to the Commission," he said at a luncheon given in his honour by the British Conservative Association in France. Sir Christopher was a former British ambassador here.

"Neither through their actions nor through their rhetoric have governments set about explaining to their public what Europe is all about," Sir Christopher said. During his four years in Brussels he was amazed how little time both the Conservative and Labour Parties had devoted to explaining the Community to the British people.

"When nothing is made clear about it, people cannot

understand; and when things go wrong, they tend to blame the Community." He believed that if Mrs. Thatcher became Prime Minister the Conservatives would explain things in European terms to the British people and he hoped the press would take its cue from them.

"Nationalistic habits have prevented us from making the most of the Community. So long as they persist, it is hard to give the Community the chance it deserves. If Europe is to remain in existence, this must be changed. Otherwise it will be gradually eroded as the sea erodes the coast. What a waste, and what a contrast to the attitude towards the Community of those countries outside it," Sir Christopher concluded.

When ministers went to Washington, they were at pains to play down the Community. But the Chinese attached great importance to Europe. In South-east Asia the fact that the Community had no colonial past was a great advantage and enabled it to play a part.

British membership of the Community had opened the European market to the Indian sub-continent, and if Russia

was so hostile, and made life so difficult for the EEC, it was because it saw in the Community the possibility of a European market.

Turning to direct elections to the European Parliament, he said it would be as wrong to minimize the importance of the Parliament as to exaggerate it, but the main result of direct elections would be to politicize it.

"The 51 British MPs to Strasbourg will talk essentially about European matters, not only at election time but between elections. Even if they are anti-European when they first go up there, they will, as experience has shown, be converted to Europe afterwards and will come back and take European positions home," Sir Christopher said.

On the chances of Britain being ready to participate in European elections by next June, he said the Government had dragged its feet on the issue. What the founding fathers of Europe had not foreseen was the impact European elections would have on domestic politics. In France it would be a disaster. It was not so certain in Britain.

Terrorists 'prepare revenge for Mogadishu'

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Nov 9

West German terrorists trained in Iraq, have returned to Europe for a campaign of revenge for the failure last month of the kidnapping of Dr. Hans-Martin Schleyer and of the Luftwaffe hijacking, the weekly magazine Stern reports.

The terrorists are given basic training by the Iraqi Army, the report alleges, and then taken to camps outside Baghdad for special terrorist training.

Some are trained in a camp at Habbaniyah, by Dr. Wadi Haddad, who is believed to be the head of the special operations section of the extremist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and to have organized air hijackings.

The four people who hijacked the Luftwaffe Boeing 737 with 87 people on board were trained in this camp, on a similar aircraft lent by the Iraqi Airways, according to Stern.

Three groups of different nationalities are being prepared for the attack. The West Germans who have been trained in Iraq have gone to Europe, possibly France, to await orders, according to the source.

Elysée move to dispel nuclear energy fears

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 9

An information council on nuclear energy is to be set up under the chairmanship of Mme Simone Veil, the Minister of Health.

The decision was made by the Cabinet today and is in line with President Giscard d'Estaing's view that the public should be better informed about the Government's long-term programme for the development of nuclear energy, which has been under increasing attack from ecologists and the left.

The Government hopes the work of the council will prevent repetition of the mistakes made at Crevalle, in the Isère, at the end of July, where the Super Phoenix 1,200 megawatt fast-breeder reactor is being built.

President Giscard d'Estaing announced that the council would be established as a gesture to the ecologists, who are likely to play a decisive part in the coming elections, when he visited the national park of Les Eyzies in the Isère.

Today's Cabinet announcement said: "The implementation of the nuclear energy programme constitutes for our country, which is very short of energy resources, a mission of necessity and priority. But on this still new subject, the in-

formation of the public is generally inadequate. This leads to reactions of distrust and of fear towards the development of nuclear energy."

The council will be directly responsible to M. Barre, the Prime Minister. It will empower bodies and to hear evidence from any person it believes would be able to give it.

It will consist of a president, appointed for three years, four representatives of local authorities directly affected by the construction of nuclear power stations, and six representatives of environmentalists and ecologists. All will be appointed by the Prime Minister.

In addition, two members of the Academy of Sciences, one of the Académie de Médecine, and one of the Académie de Moral Sciences will be appointed by those bodies. Another four people with special expertise in the fields of energy, economics and communications, chosen by the Prime Minister, will also sit on the council.

It remains to be seen whether the council will be capable of allaying the growing misgivings against the nuclear programme. Twice in the past, Le Monde points out, the government has promised to reveal everything about this programme, but it has not done so.

Socialists to seek release of hostages

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 9

A delegation of the French Socialist Party, led by M. Lionel Jospin, of the national secretary, arrived in Algiers today on a long-arranged visit. Although meetings with representatives of the Polisario Front have not yet been arranged, it is likely that they will try to negotiate the release of French hostages held by the rebels in the Western Sahara.

Like the Communists, the Socialists feel it would be worth recognizing the Polisario to obtain the release of the prisoners. M. François Mitterrand, the party leader, said in a radio interview last night that although he condemned the holding of the prisoners "it isn't a good way to obtain their freedom—appearing to organize a military campaign."

The Sahara peoples, split by an arbitrary act between foreign states, have been the victims of a denial of justice. M. Robert Fabre, leader of the Radical Party (the third constituent of the Union of the Left) said last night that the taking of hostages "could not justify the right of the people of the Sahara to claim their independence."

The hostages held by the rebels in the Western Sahara. The order to shoot was given to a policeman after the 35-year-old man had started to hit his hostage over the head with the revolver to make her scream into the telephone as he was speaking to officials of the hospital.

The police said it had not been possible to shoot only to injure the man, since the lower half of his body was shielded by his hostage. Police had tried for some four hours to persuade him to surrender.

A hospital official said the man had been hit with a bullet in the head, who had previously tried to secure the woman patient's release. The hostage, a 24-year-old nurse, was said to be recovering from abrasions and shock.

Members of the Porsche family relinquished their directorship of the Porsche firm in West Germany five years ago but kept control of it through preference shares.

The Austrians point out that one Porsche grandson is employed by Daimler-Benz and another, Herr Ferdinand Piech, is head of the design department at Audi AG. It is Herr Piech who appears to be leading the opposition to the use of the Porsche name in Austria. He has said on Austrian radio that he and other members of the family do not want to see their name associated with an industrial disaster.

Dr. Kreisky's Socialist Government argues that the new car industry, to be called Austro-Porsche, besides providing 10,000 much needed jobs, would increase foreign investment in Austria and help save foreign currency. Value added tax is to be increased to 30 per cent on January 1 on new imported cars which would obviously help a domestic motor industry.

The opposition Austrian People's Party maintains that the new car, whose design has already been leaked in the Austrian press, would be too expensive. There would be insurmountable servicing problems, and marketing prospects in the United States would decline with the tightening of President Carter's energy programme.

Dr. Kreisky's Socialist Gov-

Man shot after seizing nurse

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, Nov 9

A man who took a nurse hostage at a mental hospital in an attempt to enforce the "liberation" of a female patient, was shot dead here last night. The revolver he had used to threaten hospital staff was later found to be a harmless starting pistol indistinguishable in appearance from a real weapon.

The order to shoot was given to a policeman after the 35-year-old man had started to hit his hostage over the head with the revolver to make her scream into the telephone as he was speaking to officials of the hospital.

The police said it had not been possible to shoot only to injure the man, since the lower half of his body was shielded by his hostage. Police had tried for some four hours to persuade him to surrender.

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Dr. Kreisky's Socialist Gov-

OVERSEAS



Princely kiss: Embrace between the Prince of Wales and Miss Sylvia Crennar, aged 28, in the crowd yesterday at Adelaide airport.

A candid Mr Kruger defends his actions

From Eric Marsden
Pretoria, Nov 9

Being one of the most unpopular men in the world is not a role Mr. Jimmy Kruger relishes, but he accepts the stigma philosophically in the certainty that his actions which have brought worldwide wrath on the heads of South Africa's Government were absolutely necessary.

At a luncheon for the foreign press, which most correspondents had expected to be off the record, the Minister for Justice, Police and Prisons spoke for quotation about his reasons for outlawing black consciousness organizations, banning or restricting about 50 black and white leaders and stopping publication of three newspapers. It was all done, he made clear, more in sorrow than in anger.

Mr. Kruger talked candidly about his own character, his likes and dislikes. "There is one thing I am sure of," he said, "I am a white African. I believe I am the brother of all black Africans. . . . Any solution I seek is a solution for all. He had acted against the organized organizations "so that the black man can live in peace."

He spoke at length about the letters he had had from black people urging him to stop the disruption of life in the African townships.

Emphasizing his dis-

interestedness, said: "I don't ban people because I dislike them. I ban the greatest respect for Robert Sobukwe (the banned African National Congress leader), though I have never seen him in my life."

As for Percy Qoboza, editor of the black newspaper The World, banned on October 19: "He is a very intelligent chap. I thought I could go a long way with him, but he took a direction totally unacceptable to black people."

On the death in detention of Steve Biko in September, Mr. Kruger was surprisingly forthcoming considering that this evidence is to be presented to an August next week. He insisted that criticism of his department was ill-directed. "I do not think we have been dishonest in any stage."

When Mr. Biko was first taken ill, the police thought he was "simulating something" and doctors were brought to examine him. On press reports that Biko had died, Mr. Kruger commented: "There is no evidence at all of police involvement. A man can damage his brain in many ways. There are all sorts of possibilities."

He dismissed fears of dictatorship, which was alien to Afrikaners and English South Africans alike. It would be a "marvellous country, he said, "where the people (the American, Russians and OAU states) get off our back."

Next round on Rhodesia may be held in Malta

By Our Diplomatic
Correspondent

The idea of arranging a conference on Rhodesia to be held in Malta was attracting considerable attention yesterday, after a hint about talks from Mr. Joshua Nkomo, the Rhodesian nationalist leader.

The Foreign Office said that Malta was one of the places mentioned by Field Marshal Lord Carver, the British Resident Commissioner-designate, during his African tour which ended yesterday, but that no discussions on a date or a venue had been taken yet. Mr. Nkomo was reported as saying in London that a meeting would take place "in a few days time on an island."

Malta has certain advantages for a Rhodesia conference, if all the parties agree, in being close to home and having good communications. Geneva, where the ill-fated conference met a year ago, is regarded as being too much of a diplomatic hot-house.

Dr. David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, will confer with Lord Carver and also with Mr. John Graham, the British diplomat who has been conducting the constitutional discussions this afternoon. He will then give an appraisal of the negotiations so far and announce the next steps when he opens the debate on the annual renewal of sanctions in the Commons tomorrow.

Despite the bad experience of Geneva, it seems that the Government is now in favour of a conference on Rhodesia, where all the main parties could meet round the same table. Certainly, to take soundings individually in Africa, as has been the procedure over the past few months, is very time consuming.

Dr. Owen is expected to move to speed up the talks, so as to reach the transition period in time for Rhodesia to become an independent state in 1978. Peter Hill writes from Lagos: Dr. Owen is expected to receive a generally pessimistic briefing on prospects for an early move towards a Rhodesian settlement from Lord Carver.

Lord Carver, who completed his round of preliminary talks with a long meeting here today with Lieutenant-General Olusegun Obasanjo, the Nigerian Head of State, said afterwards: "There is a long way to go before the talks are accepted by both sides."

He said he would not be prepared to say that he was optimistic about the timetable for majority rule based on the current proposals. "It is so difficult and most important issue was the future of 'the armed men on both sides' in the period of transition."

Graham today completed six days of discussions with Rhodesian officials and black nationalist leaders by paying a courtesy call on Mr. Ian Smith, the Prime Minister. No details of their talks were available.

The most dramatic move has been in secret by sources close to the negotiations said two hurdles lie in the way of the Anglo-American plan for a peaceful transition to black rule by the end of next year. They are the make-up of a transitional government and maintenance of law and order during its life; and the type of franchise to be employed in electing a government.

Why the election is so longer enough page 16

Inquiry sought into dentist's death

By David Watts

Four hours after he was detained for questioning by police in Durban on August 3, Dr. Boosen Haffjee, a "brilliant" young dentist of Indian extraction, was dead.

The Durban police say that Dr. Haffjee, who worked at the city's King George V Hospital, was held under the Criminal Proceedings Act for investigation under the Terrorism Act. They say that he was arrested in the early hours of August 3 and hanged himself in his cell with one leg of his trousers.

His hospital colleagues say that on his last day at work throughout the previous day, Dr. Haffjee's body, obtained from South Africa, which showed a considerable number of abrasions some of which were caused before death, according to Dr. Sigurd Riber, Albrechtsen of the Institute of Forensic Pathology in Copenhagen, who was consulted by Amnesty.

Dr. Albrechtsen said that the photographs showed evidence of either blows or pressure applied to the back, knee joints, elbows and ankles. From the photographs there was no "convincing" evidence of constriction of the neck.

He said it was not possible to arrive at a conclusion as to the cause of death in the absence of the autopsy report which has not been made public by the South African authorities. He appealed to Dr. I. Gordon of the University of Natal, who carried out the post-mortem examination, to make his findings known. Amnesty appealed for an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death.

A story of alleged official callousness over Dr. Haffjee's death was told by Miss Rabia Rahim, the dead man's aunt, who is a teacher of the dead in Camberwell, London, and was on holiday with her family in Pietermaritzburg at the time.

The police, she said, had not even been able to agree on the method Dr. Haffjee allegedly used to kill himself. Colonel Francois Steenkamp, the Durban police chief, said he had hanged himself by attaching one leg of his trousers to the door of his cell. Another officer said he had tied it to one of the bars on the window. When asked in a telephone call about this discrepancy, Col. Steenkamp said: "I don't have to talk to you about this," and hung up.

Miss Rahim said she had spoken to Dr. Haffjee on August 3 before his return to Durban and 48 hours before he died. He was happy, talked of his plans for the future and what they planned to do the following evening. The first the

family heard of his death was when police came to the house to say he had committed suicide. "Our reaction was disbelief," she said.

The doctor's flat was searched by a number of policemen for two hours. They took away a book, a pamphlet and some personal letters. When the family asked for permission to remove the body a police official said they could not do so because it had no identity card.

When asked how the police could have arrested a man without asking for an identity card, the police official pushed aside Miss Rahim and walked away.

The only clue to police motives came the following day when officers detained a mechanic friend of Dr. Haffjee and questioned him all day, saying that the doctor had "confessed to everything". They referred to telephone conversations between Dr. Haffjee and his friend in May this year.

Soon afterwards his colleague of the doctor was abducted by two Afrikaner-speaking whites outside the hospital. He was blindfolded and driven for about 15 minutes before being taken into a house, tied up and suspended from the ceiling. Whenver he could not answer a question his head was dipped under water. He was later dumped by a roadside where he was found by a friend.

Massacre claim by Army in south Philippines

Zamboanga City, Nov. 9.—Muslim insurgents massacred 15 Christian civilians last week in a fresh wave of guerrilla attacks, the military authorities announced here. Another 16 people were killed in further attacks in the troubled Mindanao-Sulu area in southern Philippines.

The insurgents—the Moro National Liberation Front—lost four men in the raids, Agency France-Press.

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HOME NEWS

'Misleading sexual advice given to children'

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Children as young as 10 years are being given unbalanced and sometimes wrong information about sexual matters in teenage magazines and by officially sponsored bodies such as the Family Planning Information Service, said the Health Education Council, the Responsible Society said yesterday.

Dr Stanley Ellison, chairman of the society, which was formed in 1971 to engage in research and education in matters affecting the family and youth, said there was an assault on children, apparently with the aim of ensuring that adolescents engaged in sexual intercourse at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Government appeared to encourage that assault. There was a constant reference to "boy" and "girl" sexual intercourse in a brochure published by the Family Planning Information Service, and the age of consent was mentioned as an afterthought rather than as a matter of significant importance, Dr Ellison said.

The brochure advised boys and girls to use private family planning clinics and the FPA's mail order business, which seemed a questionable use of public money. The brochure also recommended special advisory sessions for young people where the "advantage is that there is no chance of meeting older relatives or neighbours".

Because parents were largely unaware of what was happening the society had produced a pamphlet for them, which would also be sent to the Department of Health and women's organizations, Dr Ellison said.

The pamphlet, which says that five thousand schoolgirls become pregnant every year before they have much idea of what life has to offer, asks parents if they know what those experts who devise sex education courses and give advice in magazines are saying.

In a statement supporting the pamphlet, John Peck, former president of the British Medical Association and of the Family Planning Association, said the crucial approach in much popular teaching to contraception, abortion and venereal disease was totally irresponsible because there were many and serious complications.

Tolerant and permissive trends could be reversed only if parents took a hand, made themselves more aware of what was happening and took action to protect their children from exploitation, Sir John said.

A pamphlet on health education in schools, published today by the Department of Education and Science, says that since 1943, when schools were officially recognized as having a responsibility for sex education, there had been many changes that raised often hotly discussed ethical and moral questions.

The question that every school must decide, in cooperation with parents, was the extent to which it had a responsibility in helping young people.

Dear Parents (Responsible Society, The Old Rectory, The Green, Hinton, Hants, RG24 0JH; Health Education in Schools (Stationery Office, £2.50).



Thatcher tree: Mrs Thatcher, the Conservative leader, planting a tree yesterday in Flood Street, Chelsea, where she lives, as part of the Tree Week campaign.

Teaching union passes 100,000 membership

By Our Education Correspondent

In-service membership of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers is now more than 100,000, Mr Terence Casey, general secretary of the union, announced yesterday. The union represents nearly a quarter of all teachers working in schools, he said.

The news should have important repercussions on the size of the union's representation on such bodies as the Burnham Committee on Teachers' Salaries, the Schools Council on examinations and the curriculum, and any other teachers' representative groups with which the Government may wish to hold discussions.

At present the National Union of Teachers, which claims a membership of 230,000, has 16 representatives on the Burnham Committee, compared with only three representatives of the NAS/UWT. The latter's representation has not changed since 1963, when the association's total membership was only about 40,000.

A dispute over representation between the NAS/UWT and the NUT has simmered for many years. Between them the two organizations represent more

than two thirds of serving teachers.

The NAS/UWT feels particularly aggrieved that the NUT holds an absolute majority on the Burnham Committee, having 16 seats compared with the total of 12 held by the other seven teachers' associations. This means, in effect, Mr Casey argues, that the NUT unilaterally determines what the policy on teachers' pay should be.

Mr Casey wants Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to use her powers under the Remuneration of Teachers Act 1965, to determine the formula for representation on the committee, which should reflect the size of the constituent bodies, but on which no one body should have an overall majority, he says.

The minister has asked the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) to determine what representation each teachers' union should have, after the NUT refused a few weeks ago to participate in discussions on the format for the department's circular on the curricular review on the ground that the NAS/UWT was over-represented on the proposed teachers' consultative group.

Farmers to reserve space for wildlife

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

The farming lobby in England and Wales committed itself yesterday to finding space for beauty spots and wildlife in a shrinking and intensively cultivated agricultural landscape.

The National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association appealed to their combined membership of more than 200,000 for provision of "small parcels of land specifically for their contribution to landscape or wildlife, while the generality of the countryside is used to produce food and timber".

The statement marks a milestone in nature conservation since the interests of wildlife and farming are contradictory. Some of the rarest insects, plants and birds need habitats left uncultivated and often undisturbed for decades.

British husbandry, among the most advanced in Europe, is being pushed to produce more from a shrinking area. Government policy demands more ruthless efficiency while wildlife thrives best where agriculture is slovenly.

The NFU and CLA decided, after strong appeals from the Countryside Commission, that their members had a responsibility for conserving habitats that often could not be restored once they had been made suitable for farming.

"We must establish a wider appreciation in our own industry of the vital contribution we can make towards the conservation of the landscape and of wildlife", the statement said.

It called on farmers and landowners to dig ponds and keep some permanent pasture free of fertilizer and weed-killer. It recognized that farmers who followed its advice might deny themselves income, and said: "Proper advice, practical and financial incentives for individual farmers and landowners will be needed if conservation objectives are to be achieved."

North criticizes composition of NEB offshoots

By John Chatteris

The Government's proposal to set up regional offshoots of the National Enterprise Board in north-east and north-west England has received only a cautious welcome in the regions concerned.

The move is seen clearly as an attempt to offload opposition to the new devolution Bills and prevent a repetition of the position in which many Labour MPs in the North opposed the last Bill because of fears in their constituencies that Scotland would gain unfair advantages on the industrial front.

Mr Michael Campbell, Labour leader of Tyne and Wear County Council, which has led much of the opposition in the north-east to Scottish devolution, said yesterday that he was greatly disappointed that elected members of local government organizations were not being invited to sit on the new regional boards.

The new boards, according to the government statement issued on Tuesday, are to be comprised of part-time members drawn from industry and trade unions together with the existing NEB regional directors.

Mr Campbell said he hoped that that was "an oversight" on the part of the Government, which would quickly be put right.

Three counties, Tyne and Wear, Northumberland, and Durham, are forming a joint pressure group, the Northern Counties Association, which will try to prevent any unfair share of government aid and job attraction from resources going to Scotland.

That is seen by the leaders of the three counties concerned as a better means of presenting the north-east's case to the nation and to Whitehall, rather than the unpopular idea of creating an elected regional government.

The fact that the proposed regional enterprise boards will consist of part-time appointed members, rather than democratically elected ones, is seen as a basic weakness.

Well informed sources in Manchester and Liverpool say that political leaders view the government proposals as little more than a halfway house in what is really required.

More damages for princess

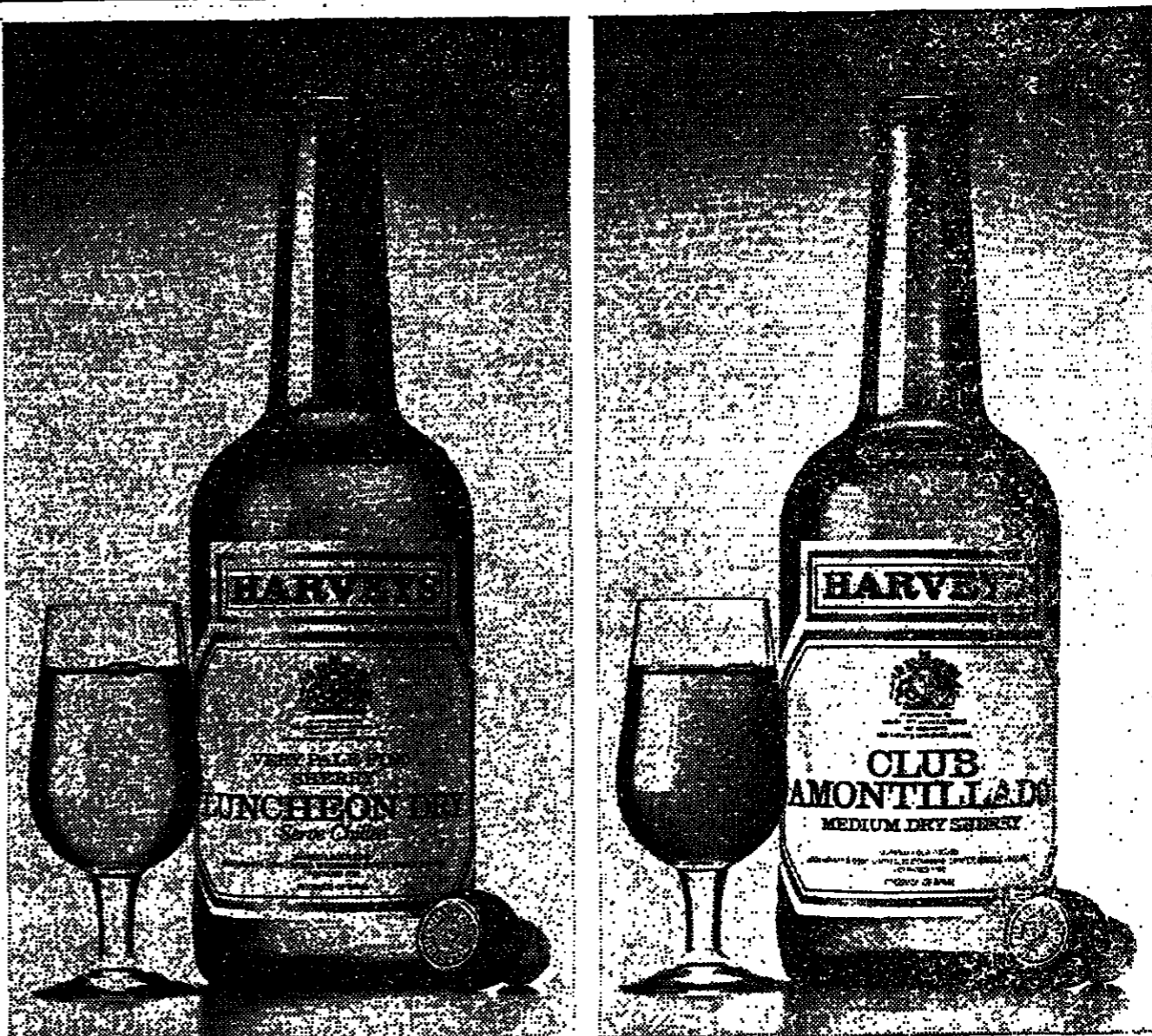
Associated Newspapers paid substantial damages to the former Foreign Minister of Uganda, Princess Elizabeth Bagaya of Toro, yesterday in settlement of a libel action.

Other newspapers have paid substantial sums during the past two years for repeating accusations about her made by President Amin. Associated Newspapers paid the sum yesterday over a report in the Evening News on December 9, 1976.

Police recover a Constable work

A Constable painting stolen from the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, on Tuesday, was recovered by the police yesterday.

The oil, depicting East Bergholt in 1808, was recovered from a picture dealer's shop in Cambridge. The police are looking for the person who took it there.



The making of two classic styles of sherry.

Throughout the summer, white Palomino grapes were slowly ripening on the gently rolling hills that surround Jerez de la Frontera.

They were harvested in September, then pressed, and now the mosto (juice) is being allowed to ferment freely in casks within the cool, vaulted bodegas.

By next Spring, certain mostos will be developing flor (yeast on the surface of the young wine), and others will not.

Only those that do will ultimately become finos or amontillados.

The classic fino is very pale in colour and very dry to taste, with a delicate bouquet. Luncheon Dry is just such a fino, and is always best served chilled as it is in Jerez itself.

The classic amontillado is richer in colour and medium dry to taste, with a particular nuttiness from the cask. Such is the character of Club Amontillado.

LUNCHEON DRY & CLUB AMONTILLADO
from Harveys of Bristol

When you stay with us in Oman you know where you are.

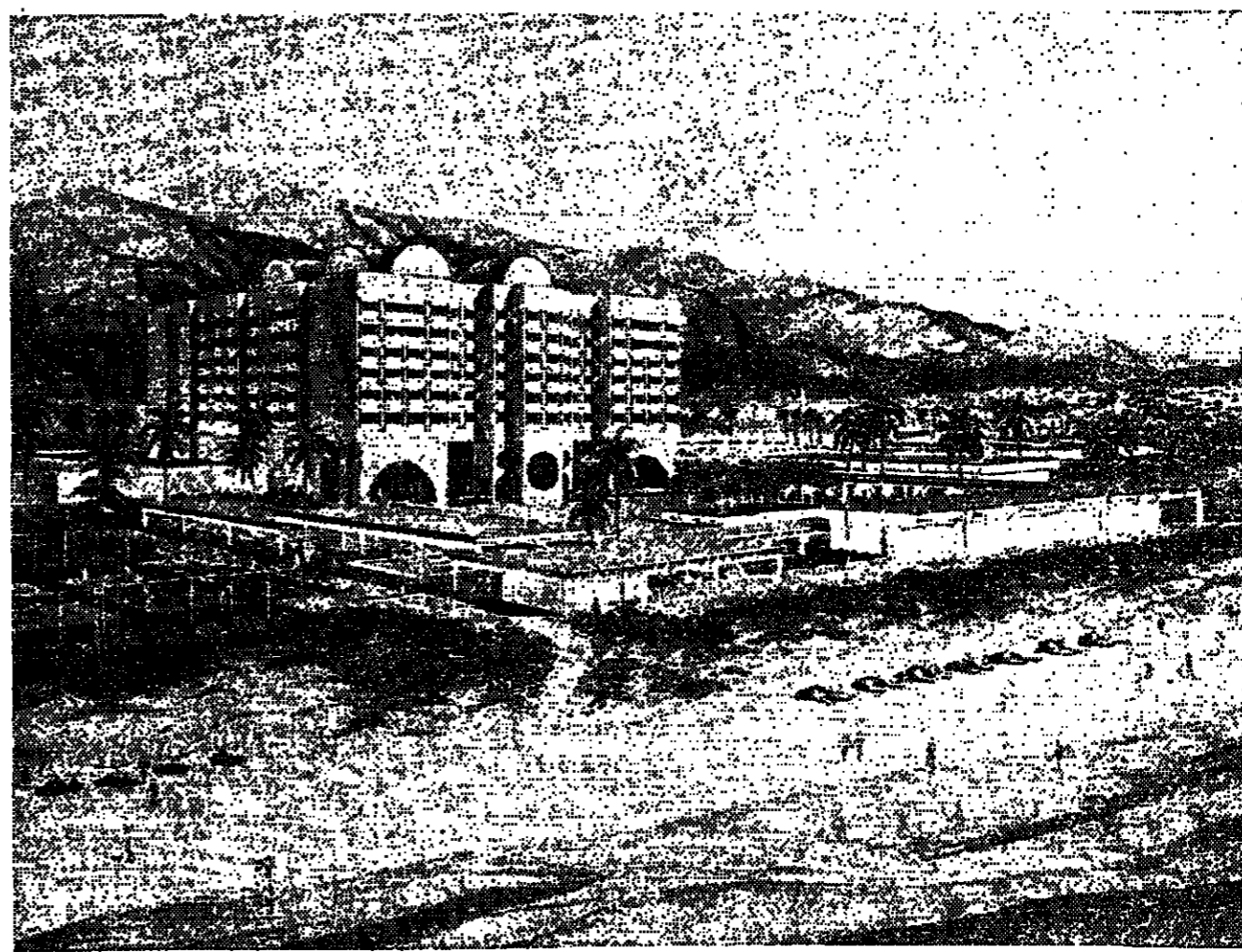
The opening of our new Inter-Continental hotel provides the experienced traveller with the reassurance that he can now enjoy the very highest standards of luxury and service in Muscat.

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From here to obscurity at question time

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mr Callaghan's valiant attempt to change the course of Prime Minister's question time in the Commons on Tuesday and Thursday each week appears to have failed. For years MPs have complained that Prime Ministers have been getting away with murder by having it within their power to transfer questions that they do not want to answer to departmental ministers lower down the pecking order.

Prime Ministers, on the other hand, would argue that this power of transfer had nothing to do with their desire to avoid questions but existed because they could not be expected to reply across the whole range of government business on any one day. MPs would probably get a better answer from the minister most closely involved with the particular query.

As time went on and MPs became craftier more and more devices were invented to force a question on a Prime Minister. In the end, questions became so obscurely worded that no

one could be certain what was being asked. That had the advantage for MPs of making it difficult for the Prime Minister to transfer the questions and they could then jump in with the supplementaries they had wanted to ask in the first place.

Endless questions appeared on the order paper asking Prime Ministers whether they would pay an official visit to Timbuctoo or Outer Mongolia, or if they would list their engagements for next Tuesday week.

So Mr Callaghan made the daring suggestion to MPs a few months ago that if they would ask more pertinent questions he would undertake not to transfer their queries quite so frequently. For a while that seemed to be working, but on Tuesday as the Prime Minister ended his first question time of the new session, Mr Malcolm Rifkind protested that his question asking Mr Callaghan if he would visit the headquarters of the International Monetary Fund in Washington had been transferred to the Treasury.

To make matters worse, the wording had been

changed so that Mr Rifkind's question ended up by asking if Mr Healey would visit the IMF.

In vain did Mr Callaghan protest that he could not be expected to answer everything, and that if he did there would be nothing left for any other minister to do. He pointed out, since the beginning of the experiment he had transferred only 14 questions out of 532 addressed to him.

The Opposition benches roared with glee as Mr Callaghan added that he had the feeling that some of them were trying to make things as difficult as they could while not realising that MPs should not mind if he sometimes defended himself.

Clearly annoyed at the continued complaints and the lack of response to his noble gesture, the Prime Minister then declared that the experiment was at an end and as far as he was concerned and that the House would be returned to the bad old days when the success of a question was judged by the depths of its obscurity.

Atomic waste tests planned in Northumberland

The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority said yesterday that it was considering making an application to carry out test drilling in Northumberland to study the properties of granite for waste disposal. The tests would be part of an EEC research programme, with other countries studying clay and salt formations.

The area being considered is Chillingham Forest. The authority said the nature and objectives of the programme would be explained to Northumberland County Council next Thursday.

Another granite formation to be investigated is in the Carrick Forest area of south-west Scotland. The authority expects to submit a planning application to drill there within a few weeks. Other studies of granite are being made in south-west England.

Television 'should give warnings about violence'

Warnings should be shown on television screens before programmes with a violent content are shown, Mr Whitelaw, opposition spokesman on home affairs, said yesterday. The warnings, he said, should also be carried in Radio Times and TV Times.

Recalling that the independent television experiment on those lines had been found helpful and useful, he added: "I should hope there was at least the need to take action to warn people about programmes and that there should be some symbols indicating the amount of violence in them."

Mr Whitelaw, speaking to the Broadcasting Press Guild, said he thought there was a relationship between violence on television and violence in the country as a whole, particularly among young people. "If

we as adults take a very relaxed view of violence then I think the children will feel themselves that this does not matter and will be rather encouraged."

But television, he continued, played a minor part compared with the whole basis of our society. Speaking of the juvenile court system and the type of sentences now being passed, he said: "We have got to think very seriously about the fact that a lot of young people are drifting right through the system and at no stage are they being deterred from continuing a life of crime; somehow we have got to break that. This is seen as a controversial view, but with all the efforts of non-custodial sentences we have also to consider whether alongside secure accommodation, we have not got to give short, sharp shock treatment."

PARLIAMENT, November 9, 1977

Seeking to avoid a Zimbabwe wracked by civil war

House of Commons
The Rhodesian people would not thank him if the end result of the Anglo-American settlement proposals was an independent Zimbabwe wracked by civil war, as happened in Angola. Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, stated at question time.

He indicated he would be having detailed discussions tomorrow (Thursday) with Field Marshal Lord Carver when he returned from Africa and there would be a debate in the House on Friday on the Rhodesian sanctions order.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind (Edinburgh, Pentlands, C) said in the exchanges—There is in reality no more prospect of integrating the Rhodesian forces with the British army, and the internal government, led by Mr Smith, and the internal African nationalist leaders.

Dr Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, Lab)—No, I think that is a fair statement. It is the complex problem that is the most complex problem, I think, that is the most complex problem.

Mr William Van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C)—Will he at least close his mind on the sensible point raised by Mr Rifkind of Lord Carver on his return does advise the Foreign Secretary that some movement in this direction is necessary, will he make clear that he will be receptive to advice in this direction?

Dr Owen—An open-mindedness to any solution in Rhodesia and will listen to anyone. I have not a closed mind. What I have to bring about is a peaceful and stable Rhodesia. This is extremely difficult when one is faced with two forces,

neither of whom have won or lost, and both of whom have to be brought together in a ceasefire. The Rhodesian people would not thank him if the end result of the Anglo-American settlement proposals was an independent Zimbabwe wracked by civil war, as happened in Angola. Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, stated at question time.

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Home Secretary urges firemen to reconsider strike action: plans to protect life and property

A call to the Fire Brigades Union and its members to think again about the strike proposed for next Monday was made by Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary.

He could understand, he said, that firemen felt they had waited a long time but the discussions on a pay formula and on reduction of hours and face the difficulties of the future.

I ask the members of the union to weigh the benefits to them of a strike against the consequences of a strike. The consequences of a strike would be the loss of life and property.

We welcomed the fact that the National Joint Council was seeking to achieve this. We said again that the Government would follow the recommendations of the National Joint Council.

We also repeated that the Government would support the firemen in their long-standing claim for a reduction in the 48-hour working week of the firemen and would support the firemen in their claim for a reduction in the 48-hour working week of the firemen.

remains risk of serious loss of life and damage to property. The consequences of a strike would be the loss of life and property. The consequences of a strike would be the loss of life and property.

In conclusion, I recognize how much we all depend on the fire service, and on the willingness of its members to turn out at the call of duty, and face the difficulties of the future.

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firemen to train new firemen. It will take about a year. The fire service is a 24-hour service. That commitment was allowed to go through the NJC, and it is one of the most important for the fire service for more than 25 years. I hope they will think about this carefully.

Mr John Pardoe (North Cornwall, Lab)—Whatever the delays and frustrations suffered over a long period by firemen, their commitment to the service is well known. Although withdrawal of labour may literally mean death, he has no alternative but to stand firm. The House must support him in the last minute appeal to the better nature of the firemen.

Mr Rees—Whatever is going to happen is inevitable. At the end of the day I do not believe that, despite what they said at the conference, people are going to sit back and watch people die. That is not the fire service I have known for the last 10 or 15 years. But if that is the way it is going to be, I must take every step I can to save lives.

Whatever it looks like now in the newspapers, the effect in a community of an order of people coming to the aid of a person in trouble is the kick back not a result of fire—the kick back not a result of fire—the kick back not a result of fire.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab)—It is better to get around the table with almost continuous session rather than strike. Even if it is one hour, I would like to see the fire service operate.

Mr Rees—There are a number of aspects, where 999 telephones go through the police switchboard, and so on. It may vary in different parts of the country. I shall be looking at the situation and making various aspects.

I have an operations centre in the Home Office. It is the local authority's responsibility. It is not a national responsibility. The point I raised is one of man. We expect that all of this will be attended to in different ways.

Mr James Silvers (South Ayrshire, Scot Lab)—The best possible fire officer cannot provide the alternative to that which we have in the fire service. Unless an increased offer of pay is made, the fire service will be in a bitter mood on Monday morning.

My commitment to the police is the same. I am not a 10 per cent man, but I am a 10 per cent man. I am not a 10 per cent man, but I am a 10 per cent man. I am not a 10 per cent man, but I am a 10 per cent man.

Mr Mackie of Benslie (Lab) said the police were not only lacking in new recruits but also in training. He said that the police were not only lacking in new recruits but also in training. He said that the police were not only lacking in new recruits but also in training.

Lord Harris of Greenwich, Minister of State, Home Affairs, said that the Government could not be accused of being over-hasty with regard to devolution. It was proposed that the referendum should be held in Scotland and Wales.

House adjourned, 8.27 pm.
Parliamentary notices
House of Commons
Under a 1961 Statute Payments Bill, second reading.

Advantages in having three more in EEC

Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, declared his unequivocal support for enlargement of the EEC from nine to 12.

He had told Mr Tom Arnold (Hemel Hempstead, C) that negotiations were in progress on Greek accession and added: The procedure under the treaty is that the Portuguese and Spanish applications have been referred by the Council of Ministers to the Commission and their opinion is expected early in 1978.

Mr Arnold—Have the Spanish asked for a transitional period of 10 to 15 years and is this not realistic?

Dr Owen—Their Prime Minister made clear that they were looking for a normal transitional period. It is to be achieved in the next few years. I am sure we can get the Commission's assessment.

Nobody could doubt that the Community, in making a decision to enlarge, will face some formidable problems of adjustment, not least in economic and social terms. The whole question of common agricultural produce from the Mediterranean.

Mr Roger Moots (Faversham, C)—There is widespread agreement for the Prime Minister's letter to the Council of Ministers. The Prime Minister's letter to the Council of Ministers. The Prime Minister's letter to the Council of Ministers.

Dr Owen—I declare my unequivocal support for enlargement from nine to 12. This is crucially important to the future of the Community. I am sure we can get the Commission's assessment.

There are criticisms of the Community in its existing form about over-centralization, and about over-bureaucratization. I have sympathy with them.

Problems of rural pharmacies
The British Medical Association, Secretary of State for Social Services, in a written reply, said: I am aware that some rural pharmacies, particularly those which dispense small quantities of prescriptions, have been facing serious problems.

Information reaching Mr Prior that latest productivity deals are not genuine

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C), resuming the debate on the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

He said he hoped the figures of unemployment in society generally were not too far from the truth. He said he hoped the figures of unemployment in society generally were not too far from the truth. He said he hoped the figures of unemployment in society generally were not too far from the truth.

The discrepancy of Labour MPs and Ministers on the subject was nauseating. What attitude did the Government have to the fact that the Opposition was at its present level?

It was only because Britain's productivity and competitive position had deteriorated so much in the past three years that the level of unemployment was not much higher. He remembered Labour castigating the Conservatives for the unemployment problem.

What has been happening in the last three years (he said) is that we have priced ourselves out of jobs. We have been out of jobs. We have been out of jobs. We have been out of jobs.

All the information reaching him was that the productivity deals were not genuine. He said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

There was a strong case for a different attitude towards companies obtaining grants in the development areas. The Government could save a great deal of money and still get the same results.

Liberalism want campaign for young people
Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, Lib), said the most serious aspect of the problem was youth unemployment. This was the most serious aspect of the problem was youth unemployment. This was the most serious aspect of the problem was youth unemployment.

Mr Francis Pym, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons Affairs and devolution (Cambridge, C), said the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

companies obtaining grants in the development areas. The Government could save a great deal of money and still get the same results. He said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

The Government must take action to create new jobs. He said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

This country had always been too slow in stopping other people exporting their unemployment. He said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

Educationists must be made to realize they had a responsibility for the young people who were prepared for employment. They could not go on with the situation in which the next few years so many young people would be so ill-trained for getting a job.

There were a great many people who were not working. He said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

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industry and so cut unemployment would have to take account that the size of the country's labour force was growing. He said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

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London to get 25 more court rooms in effort to reduce trial delays

Courts at all levels were rightly being built, said Mr David Lloyd Williams, Lord Chancellor, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal, said that the Government's proposals for a new productivity deal.

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OVERSEAS

Carter attempt to win support for energy cuts fails to impress

From David Cross
Washington, Nov 9

President Carter's latest attempt to rally the public and, more important, sceptical members of Congress, behind his flagging energy programme has not had its intended impact.

Most members of Congress, who watched Mr Carter's 20-minute televised address to the nation last night from the White House or their homes, probably agreed with the assessment of Mr Thomas Ashby, a Democrat Congress member from Ohio, "He told reporters that the speech 'has not changed anything'."

The message conveyed by Mr Carter was essentially a reiteration of everything he has said since he unveiled his proposals in the spring with the dramatic announcement that the fight against energy waste was "the moral equivalent of war."

The only noticeable difference from his recent lectures was a significant toning down of criticism of the oil and gas industry, which he accused last month of attempting "the biggest rip-off in history."

Mr Carter made it clear that he would sign energy legislation only if it were fair, if it helped energy conservation and encouraged development of new fuel sources.

The long debate was not a contest of strength between the President and Congress, nor between the House of Representatives and the Senate.

What is being measured is the strength and will of our nation, whether we can acknowledge a threat and meet a serious challenge together.

This election day in many parts of the country, the result has been only doubtful coverage in today's newspapers.

house generally went along with Mr Carter's ideas, whereas the Senate rejected most of them.

Members of both houses are now trying to reconcile their differences and it is this process which Mr Carter is seeking to influence. If yesterday's tortuous session of the special joint committee is any yardstick, any compromise package will take many weeks to complete.

Much of yesterday's meeting was devoted to procedural questions and yet more explanations from experts on the likely impact of sections of the energy programme. Only slightly over half the members of the committee bothered to turn up for the morning session.

Mr Carter has been criticized in recent weeks for failing to devote enough of his time to wooing sceptics in Congress. But since his recent lectures were a significant toning down of criticism of the oil and gas industry, which he accused last month of attempting "the biggest rip-off in history."

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Leading article, page 17

Mr Sadat is ready to go to Knesset itself

From Edward Mortimer
Cairo, Nov 9

President Sadat said today that he was so anxious to open peace negotiations with Israel that he would even go to the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament.

Speaking at the opening of the Egyptian National Assembly, the President said he would agree to any procedural demand Israel might put forward for the Geneva conference.

"because when I get to Geneva neither Israel nor the Egyptians will be able to stop me from demanding the legitimate right of the Palestinians to establish their independent homeland."

He was ready, he added, to go to the furthest corner of the world if this would safeguard one soldier or officer from being killed, or even

wounded. Israel will be surprised when it hears me say before you that I am ready to go to the Knesset itself to discuss with them."

The emotional statement, which came near the end of a two-and-a-half-hour speech dealing with both domestic and foreign affairs, was greeted with loud applause.

Mr Sadat said he had spoken by telephone to President Assad of Syria just before coming to the assembly, and he would be able to stop me from demanding the legitimate right of the Palestinians to establish their independent homeland."

He was ready, he added, to go to the furthest corner of the world if this would safeguard one soldier or officer from being killed, or even

Strikes force Argentine rethink

From Andrew Tarnowski
Buenos Aires, Nov 9

Argentina's recent strike wave was the strongest labour challenge yet faced by the military government. For a few days there was confusion and crisis in the air. Strikes are banned, but it looked as if they were becoming widespread.

The strikes halted the railways, the capital's commuter network and its underground train system. Postal workers, dockers, airline pilots and other state employees were affected.

For a while there was a climate of consternation. Every Argentine remembers that the 1969 riots in Córdoba which helped to bring down General Juan Carlos Onganía, were the result of austerity policies imposed on those of the present Government.

The fears proved exaggerated. The crisis subsided quite peacefully after eight days once the military leaders showed their muscle. Indeed, the Government may have emerged strengthened, although it will have to think hard now about putting the labour movement on a legal footing.

The strikes surprised nobody, although their spontaneity was impressive. They began when 40 railway signallers walked out demanding higher pay, and then snowballed. There was no organization behind them because trade union activities remain banned.

But the Government's slowness to respond caused confusion. It was probably due to sympathy with the strikers' demands even among the military regime, and to the lack of labour organizations with which to negotiate.

Argentina's two and a half million state employees are living on the minimum 30,000 pesos (\$33) a month. This is part of the austerity policy for which Dr José Martínez de Hoz, the Economy Minister, is known as Martínez de Hoz (hunger). General Horacio Llanos, the Labour Minister, had recently illustrated military concern by pressing for wages to be linked to cost-of-living increases, now running at 150 per cent annually.

Without a coherent Government response to the strikes, some state companies negotiated, while others brought in troops to operate emergency services and threatened dismissal and prosecution under the industrial security law.

A clear response emerged only when Dr Martínez de Hoz returned from a European tour. Indeed, two significant factors to emerge from the confrontation are that the civilian ministers are not the solution, and the military stood by him in a crisis.

Dr Martínez de Hoz obtained President Jorge Rafael Videla's

Victory for Democrats 'unpopular' governor

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Nov 9

Local issues invariably dominate local elections in the United States more than they do in Britain, so it is often misleading to try to discern any national trend. Yet after the clutch of state and city elections across the country yesterday, the Democrats have more cause for satisfaction than the Republicans.

The most notable Democrat triumph was in the election for Governor of New Jersey where Mr Brendan Byrne, the sitting Governor, scored a substantial victory over Mr Raymond Bateman, the Republican.

Only a few months ago Mr Byrne had the reputation of being the most unpopular Governor in the country, and long odds would have been offered against his staying in office.

The introduction of a state income tax had been his most controversial move and Mr Bateman had promised to withdraw it. In the event, though, New Jersey voters decided that Mr Bateman's alternative proposals for raising revenue were more suspect than what they had already.

The only other state election was in Virginia, where the Republicans kept control in the person of Mr John Dorton, the Lieutenant-Governor. The position vacated by Mr Dorton, however, was won by a Democrat, Mr Charles Robb, son-in-law of the late President Lyndon Johnson.

The Democrats kept control of the legislative assemblies in both Virginia and New Jersey.

Republicans made a particularly poor showing in New York, where Mr Edward Koch, the Democratic victor, and Mr Mario Cuomo, the Liberal Party challenger won 92 per cent of the vote between them. Mr Roy Goodman, the official Republican candidate, lost only 4 per cent, just beating the Conservative, Mr Barry Farber.

Democrats maintained their hold on most of the other 37 cities which elected mayors yesterday. In Cleveland, Ohio, the Republican Mayor, Mr Ralph Perk, had already been beaten in the primary election.

The new resident at City Hall will be Mr Dennis Kucinich, an unofficial Democrat who narrowly defeated the official party candidate. At 31, he will be the city's youngest mayor.

The most spectacular success came in Raleigh, North Carolina, where Mrs Isabelle Cannon won her first elective office at the age of 73. A retired librarian who campaigned on an environmentalist platform, she defeated the sitting Mayor, Mr Ives Cogswell, who had been elected as a "lady in tennis shoes." After that, she took to campaigning with tennis shoes "draped around her neck."

endorsement, and at the height of the strikes issued a communiqué which had the men returning to work within hours. He announced average pay increases of 3 per cent, declared that this was all the state could afford, and ordered state corporations to start applying the industrial security law. This left many workers with only about \$80 a month, far less than their demands.

A key factor in persuading the men to return was Dr Martínez de Hoz's explanation: "These decisions are not liable to any negotiation or variation because of the budget situation of the state, which lacks any possibility of granting further benefits without resorting to uncontrolled monetary issues which would harm the entire population and frustrate efforts made until now to improve the country's economy."

The minister's problem is that while maintaining full employment he is fighting to reduce inflation and the budget deficit. Most state corporations are overstaffed and bankrupt; the railways lose \$700,000 daily, and the long-term strategy is to force men into the better-paid, more productive private sector.

As the economy improves under his continued guidance, Dr Martínez de Hoz promises corresponding wage improvements; his forecast is that they will double in three years.

Ottawa tries to play down Paris-Quebec links

From Our Correspondent
Ottawa, Nov 9

A complicated game of diplomatic one-upmanship seems to be taking shape in relations between Canada and France following the lavish reception given to Mr René Lévesque, Premier of Quebec, in Paris last week.

The Canadian Government, which uneasily about what the events in Paris portend in respect to future French policy towards Quebec, is doing its best to play down the affair.

Questioned about it in the Commons yesterday, Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister, simply said that for the people of Quebec French investment is more important than French medals.

The allusion was to President Giscard d'Estaing's action in awarding the French Legion of Honour to Mr Lévesque at the Elysée Palace last Thursday. The ceremony was one of the high points of an action-filled, three-day visit to France by Mr Lévesque, Quebec Premier, whose Parti Québécois Government wants to make the French-speaking province out of the Canadian Confederation.

Mr Jean Chrétien, the Finance Minister, who was acting as Prime Minister in Mr Trudeau's absence, told a questioner that relations between France and Canada were "excellent."

He made no response to a suggestion by a Government backbencher that Canada should invite the leaders of the separatist parties of Corsica and Brittany to Ottawa, and encourage them to destroy the "integral sovereignty" of France.

Mr Chrétien and the Prime Minister were reflecting the thinking of the External Affairs Department that there is no reason for Canada to make a diplomatic incident out of the diplomats showered on Mr Lévesque, and thereby risk a rift with France at this point.

Mr Donald Jamieson, the External Affairs Minister, told reporters that Canada will seek clarification of President Giscard d'Estaing's references to French support for Quebec, and the planned exchange of meetings between Mr Lévesque and Mr Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister.

At the same time, the Can-

adian authorities appear satisfied, after studying a report from Mr Gerard Pelletier, Canadian Ambassador in Paris, that however warm the welcome accorded Mr Lévesque it was not such as would be given to a head of state.

Despite the Government's resolute turning of the other cheek, the Lévesque visit has clearly ushered in a new phase in relations between Canada and France, characterized by growing Canadian doubts about French intentions regarding support for Quebec separatism.

Significantly, the very day Mr Lévesque arrived home to an emotional welcome from thousands of cheering Quebecers in Montreal, Mr Jean-Pierre Goyer, the Canadian Supply and Services Minister, set out on a week's visit to French-speaking Africa.

Mr Goyer, appointed adviser on Francophone affairs to Mr Jamieson earlier this year, is visiting Upper Volta, Zaire and Gabon. It is his third visit to French-speaking Africa in five months.

Part of his assignment is to help lay the groundwork for a French-speaking Commonwealth, more or less modelled



Victory message from Mr Koch to his supporters: "Tonight we've arrived."

New York picks bachelor mayor

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Nov 9

In the competitive field of New York politics, the single quality most required for success is opportunism. It is a quality that has characterized Mr Edward Koch's political career, which reached its zenith last night when defeating Mr Mario Cuomo, he was elected as the city's first bachelor mayor for exactly a hundred years.

In 1963 Mr Koch, spotting early the liberal anti-organization trend which was to be a feature of the sixties, became a candidate for Democratic District leader in Greenwich Village. His opponent was the formidable Carmine De Sapio, a symbol of the traditional "Tammany Hall" leadership of the Democrats which then held sway.

Although he was already 38 years old, Mr Koch rallied to his support many idealistic young Democrats disillusioned with the leadership of the old clubhouse politicians. He won the election.

His liberal image stood him in good stead in 1968, when he

was elected to Congress for what is known as the "silk stocking district" of Manhattan—the first Democrat to win that seat for 31 years. It was the district formerly represented by Mr John Lindsay, mayor of New York from 1965 to 1973.

Soon after election to Congress, Mr Koch found it politic to modify his liberalism. Most notoriously, he identified himself with the middle class and mainly Jewish residents of Forest Hills, in Queens, who opposed the building of low-income housing there.

More recently, he has declared his support for the death penalty, in response to the fears of many New York residents for their safety. Law and order was a strong theme of his election campaign. He has also promised to take a tough line with the city trade unions, saying that he will stand out against excessive wage demands and force redundancies in departments which are over-manned.

On other issues, however, he has maintained a more populist position. He is a convinced supporter of public transport, a frequent user of the declining

subway system. His mayoral car will be his first, he says, since 1965 when his last car wore out.

His support for public transport is in keeping with the life style which he maintains in his rent-controlled bachelor flat in Manhattan. He says he will hold on to the lease of the flat, although with the job of mayor goes the right to live in Gracie Mansion, a splendid colonial-style building by the East river.

"I want to remember what it is like to ride the elevator and ride the subway," he explained in a television interview yesterday. "I want to remember how to take my own shirts to the laundromat. It's only when you're running along the platform to jump into the last car that you can know how bad the subway service is."

A cynic could, if he were so minded, detect a touch of opportunism here, too. This insistence on maintaining links with the people is a fashionable attitude among politicians just now, having been used to good effect by such as President Carter and Governor Brown of California.

Row erupts over US Salt negotiations

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Nov 9

The strategic arms limitation talks (SALT) are probably more lively in Washington than they are in Geneva, where American and Russian negotiators are hammering out the final details of a second treaty.

If all goes well here, President Carter will get the Panama treaties out of the way just in time to join the real battle over ratifying Salt-II. If things go badly, he will have both battles on his hands simultaneously.

The latest state of the fight here is that Mr Paul Nitze, who conducted the Salt-I talks and is now the main spokesman for the Committee on the Present Danger, has strongly attacked the Administration's negotiating position. Someone (probably on Capitol Hill) gave him a detailed account of the present state of the talks in Geneva and he disclosed it last week, publishing a severe critique of the American proposals at the same time.

Various supporters of the Administration have deplored the leak but Mr Vance, the Secretary of State, who admits that leaks are dangerous, also concedes that they cannot be stopped. He continues to brief congressional committees on the latest state of play.

The Arms Control Association contends that the missile gap which Mr Nitze so denounces does not endanger the United States.

Mr Nitze sums up his argument thus: "Once we have agreed to a three-year ban on the deployment of mobile missiles, it becomes uncertain that the ban can be eliminated in future negotiations."

Under the now most likely provisions of a Salt-II agreement, we run a high risk of having no B-1, or Cruise missiles adequate in numbers and range to penetrate Soviet defences, no follow-on to the aging Minuteman-III and a submarine-launched ballistic missile force at sea of less than 25 boats each, constituting 4 per cent of our only reliable deterrent power and thus worth enormous Soviet efforts to negate (destroy)."

He says that recent American decisions (such as abandoning the B-1 and planning to introduce the MX missile in 1986)

"make it virtually impossible to maintain crisis stability, brought equivalence or reversed presently unfavourable trends during the period of the agreement."

This is fighting talk, because Mr Vance's argument, like that of Dr Kissinger before him, is that even though the Russians have more and bigger missiles, American technological superiority made up the difference and produced "rough equivalence."

Mr Nitze's argument about the relative strengths of the two countries' deterrents is shown in a few figures. He claims that a Minuteman-III has a payload of about 2,200lb (and as a former Deputy Secretary of Defence, he should know). Each of the 550 missiles has three warheads (multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles, or MIRVs) giving 1,250 lb of bomb.

He claims that the aggregate throw-weight of Russian intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) is about 8m lb and that there are enough of them to destroy all American Minutemen. Comparisons for ICBMs without MIRVs are equally unfavourable.

Now the Arms Control Association, notably Mr Jan Lodal, once a director of programme analysis for the National Security Council, and Mr Herbert Scoville, former scientific adviser to the CIA, claim that this is all irrelevant. They say that it is quite unrel to claim that all 550 Minutemen-III can be destroyed at once.

They say that the technical difficulties of hitting the Minutemen are not lessened by increasing the number of huge bombs sent against them. They also claim that the B-52 is still probably capable of penetrating Soviet air defences and that the cruise missile will do what the Nitze claims it can do (Mr Nitze says it cannot).

It is an argument far the experts, but it is already clear that the defenders of the proposed Salt-II agreement will have some difficulty in persuading the Senate and public opinion of the usefulness of a just agreement which will be presented as leaving America with a "second best" defence system.

Pan Am on brink of quitting IATA

From Arthur Reed
Madrid, Nov 9

Pan American World Airways, the leading United States airline, is seriously considering whether to resign from the International Air Transport Association (IATA), according to reports circulating at the association's annual meeting.

The reports are backed up by Pan American executives here who confirm that the airline is conducting a review, expected to last two months, of the advantages and disadvantages of belonging to the parliament of 110 air lines representing 85 countries.

Pan American's disaffection with IATA over current fares policies is underlined by the fact that Mr William Seawell, the airline's chairman and chief executive officer, is absent from the Madrid meeting.

The resignation by such an influential airline as Pan American would have a disastrous effect on the future of IATA. Pan American is said to be deeply worried by IATA's public image as a high-fare cartel because the airline wants to be known as an innovator of cheap fares.

Reports circulating among the delegates here indicate that Pan American may be prepared to stay in the association if IATA gives up its traditional role on technical and commercial matters only.

IATA took its revolutionary stance for restructuring its role a stage further here today by appointing a five-member committee to review existing fares procedures.

The committee has been told to report back by May, 1978, and its recommendations will be considered by the association in June next year.

Big American companies sued over unequal promotion prospects Lawsuits force firms to treat women better

From Michael Leapman
New York, Nov 9

The publishers of the Reader's Digest last week became the latest large corporation to be forced by legal action to treat their women employees better. In an out-of-court settlement, they agreed to pay \$1.5m (\$830,000) to 2,600 present and former female employees, to make their salaries comparable with men's. The company also undertook to appoint more women to senior editorial positions.

Since the early 1970s, a series of successful suits of this nature have been brought against corporations, many of them in the communications business. In 1972, Newsweek magazine was made to appoint women to its editorial staff. The history of the case is fairly typical. In 1973 a group of women employees met and drew up what they called a "white paper" to present to the management. They asked for equal pay, and an attempt to open a dialogue on the treatment of women by the company. The management, however, made no response. So the women approached the Employment Rights Project and initiated legal action.

is under way against The New York Times.

In most of these cases the defendants have been represented by the Employment Rights Project at Columbia Law School in New York. This is a team of four lawyers (two women and two men) created in 1971 with Federal funding and with the dual role of teaching students about this aspect of the law and of representing clients in suitable cases.

I went to Columbia and found half the team, Mrs Harriet Rabb and Mr Howard Rubin, jubilant over their victory in the Reader's Digest case. Why, I asked, had the company settled out of court? "Because we were going to murder them," Mrs Rabb declared trenchantly. The history of the case is fairly typical. In 1973 a group of women employees met and drew up what they called a "white paper" to present to the management. They asked for equal pay, and an attempt to open a dialogue on the treatment of women by the company. The management, however, made no response. So the women approached the Employment Rights Project and initiated legal action.

Injured Korchnoi has to put off Spassky match

Frauenfeld, Switzerland, Nov 9.—Viktor Korchnoi, the Russian chess grandmaster, was injured in a road accident last night and will have to postpone his world championship semifinal against Boris Spassky.

Korchnoi, aged 46, who defected from Russia last year, suffered a broken hand and other minor injuries when a taxi in which he was travelling collided with a Swiss Army vehicle.

The semi-final match against Spassky was to have started in Belgrade on November 15. Swiss chess officials said the two men's managers were discussing another date.—UPI.

Eurocommunism stronger now, Señor Carrillo says

From Our Correspondent
Belgrade, Nov 9

Señor Santiago Carrillo, the Spanish Communist Party leader, today said Eurocommunism was stronger now than ever before but denied assertions that there were differences between himself and the Soviet party.

Señor Carrillo, who arrived here yesterday for talks with Yugoslav Communist Party leaders, made a point of emphasising that Eurocommunism became even more of a reality after the incident in Moscow, which, he said, had surprised everybody there.

Detained editors set free in Pakistan

Lahore, Nov 9.—Three Pakistani editors have been released after being held in jail under a martial law regulation which bars publication of material objectionable to the military administration.

Those released are Alhaj Hasan Qureshi, editor of the monthly magazine Urdu Digest and the weekly journal Zindagi; Nasir Naji, Lahore editor of the Daily Halaq, and Syed Badruddin, editor of Muskan.

Mr Qureshi was known for his opposition to Mr Bhutto, the deposed Prime Minister, while the publications of the other two men supported Mr Bhutto's Peoples Party.—Reuters.

Janneau Armagnac is an ordinary French brandy like Pâté de Foie Gras Truffé is an ordinary French sandwich-spread

Janneau
Grand Armagnac
Ordinaire it is not



NEW BOOKS

Little local difficulties

The Diaries of a Cabinet Minister
Volume Three: Secretary of State for Social Services, 1966-70
By Richard Crossman
(Hamish Hamilton/Cape, £12.50)

Perhaps these last years of the Crossman diaries should be re-titled *The Twilight of the Dons*.

Nixon apparently said after he had been to see Crossman that it was one of the most interesting and cultured men he had ever met. This is true; it isn't simply that he was an Oxford First (seven before he lost Frank Pakenham), it is that he was still quite an interesting man in 1966.

Those whom the gods wish to destroy, they first make excessively pleased with themselves. Harold Wilson's own "personal record" of the 1964-70 Labour government is pure jargon, with Sir H. as Posh-Admiral Crossman is a Wagnerian, not a D'Oyly Carte fan (He would not go to Covent Garden, instead of voting in the House of Commons). His intention in these diaries was, therefore, more grandly philosophical, the announced in volume I: to bring up to date Bagehot's Victorian view of the British constitution.

But how up-to-date was Richard Howard Spafford Crossman, born 1907, the son of a judge?

Off to a farewell party at the Privy Council Office (where he had his room as Lord President before becoming Social Services Secretary), with nice little speeches by Geoffrey Agnew and myself. We have had a love-hate relationship since I left. I told Mr Pakenham, a splendid man who looked after our silver, took people round and helped with my parties at night. He reached the apex of kindness when I wanted to get a pencil torch to read the libretto of *Gianni Schicchi* which he borrowed his daughter's. He is

a marvellous type of old-fashioned, but we said it fondly.

November 1, 1968.

Crossman has a stunning ability to be patronising. Here he is, appointing a new chairman of the Supplementary Benefits Commission: "a great big, tall, gangling man, a real slow working-class chap with a lovely face and a very pleasant wife."

Remember that this is a man who, as you could think of, but his personality and his politics were a bad fit. He says he was lucky to be MP for Coventry East. With a huge majority, he need spend little time tending his constituency. He feels, none the less, that his local supporters have kept him more left-wing than he might otherwise have been. And he's grateful.

Left, but not very left. The generation conflicts of 1968 are riddled into parentheses: "LSE (which, by the way, is now in revolution). He is scabbing about Bernadette Devlin."

Being the most rambling, this is the best of the three volumes. The first (1964-66) was full of the exhilaration of actually doing something, after all those years of being a member of the House of Commons, and it had Dame Evelyn Sharp as prima donna. But Crossman lived long enough to reshape this volume almost too artistically.

The second (1966-68) is the dullist. He is so close to the centre of things that he loses his outsider-on-the-inside status. He becomes pure insider.

In this third volume he is driven back into himself. He is older, wiser, more strained. He is back in a major spending department (though the main thing we learn about it is to sympathize with the civil servants who have to endure his daily parody of a Daily Express editor). But he's rather out of

favour. And so is the whole Labour government.

The heart of this book is the *annus terribilis* of 1969. The Government lost its hold over Parliament with the Lords' Reform Bill (Crossman's personal dead duck); splintered the Trades Union Congress with the Barbara Castle Industrial Relations Bill (Crossman was an anti, like Callaghan); and Roy Jenkins pulled the Iron Chancellor, attacking both the balance of payments and the odds against the return of a Labour majority in 1970.

But, meanwhile, even twilight has its compensations. There are claret and gull's eggs at Brooks's, lunch at the Ritz ("What a pretty place") and dinner at the "lovely house" of Lady Hartwell, the wife of the owner of the Telegraph. Crossman is quite conscious of the discrepancy.

The greatest comedy scene—almost Buster Keaton—has Crossman and Barbara Castle in mid-crisis on to Charles Forte's Mediterranean yacht. Everyone has a code name. Wilson is Lion, Castle is Peacock, Crossman is Owl. The officials, however, "only got one thing to make any contact with the consulate at Naples, through whom all communications had to come."

Politics is a strange mixture of loneliness and gregariousness. Each of us has his own emergency. Crossman and Castle share a Bevanite past, and much friendship; but they're bitterly opposed to each other on policy.

When Crossman is sick in bed, only one member of cabinet (Callaghan) writes him a note. Would he have written anyone a note? And if so, what motive?

The contradictions in Crossman are what give this volume, like its predecessors, its edge. It is not surprising that he was an infuriating colleague, and an even more infuriating boss. He was, for example, very committed to Israel, and he gives here a speech in London to "all British Jews of any distinction who care about Zionism." Yet he falls into the chairman use of "Jew" as very near to a term of insult. Solomons, the Labour MP for Hull, north, "was a very boring, elderly London Jew."

Reg Freeman, the present Minister for Housing, is "that little wet Jew from Willesden."

The diaries end at the election of June 1970 past Edward Heath and Richard Crossman into jobs for which it turns out they're not entirely suited—the Prime Minister and the editorship of the *New Statesman*, respectively. A certain bullying manner has something to do with each of these little local difficulties. It is all a long way from the glad days of October 1964 and volume 1, "a crowd of people jostling and cheering."

In due course, a non-don, a man without any university education at all, took over the Labour leadership.

The 2,578 pages of the three volumes are a service to history, even if Crossman is too much the diarist to have reached his Bagehot target. But there's also a contribution to literature, skulking among these thickets of recollection. I hope the publishers have someone snipping away with scissors, for an abridged version with less admin in it.

It's almost as much a portrait of a dead world as Kilver's diaries. On page 487, there's a footnote to explain what a half-crown is.

The two previous volumes of the diaries are still available: volume one at £7.95; volume two at £9.50.

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like its predecessors, its edge. It is not surprising that he was an infuriating colleague, and an even more infuriating boss. He was, for example, very committed to Israel, and he gives here a speech in London to "all British Jews of any distinction who care about Zionism." Yet he falls into the chairman use of "Jew" as very near to a term of insult. Solomons, the Labour MP for Hull, north, "was a very boring, elderly London Jew."

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Agatha Christie as a young girl

Almost all

An Autobiography
By Agatha Christie
(Collins, £7.95)

Agatha Christie has done it again. She has given us a book that is as wonderfully easy to read and as engrossing as *Ten Little Niggers* or *Murder at the Vicarage*. And this in spite of the fact that she passes over without a word the one mystery that her long life presented, her much-publicised disappearance for nine days back in 1926.

She was, I think, right to say nothing about this. The explanation (that in considerable distress after her mother's death and with her loved husband wanting a divorce she had a nervous breakdown) has long been available for those willing to accept a humdrum if sad answer. Sensation-seeking journalists blew the whole affair up to ridiculous proportions, and incidentally hurt considerably a pleasantly reticent person.

In any case her autobiography is not a mixture of chronicle of every event of any importance that ever happened to her. Thank goodness. She led a fairly dull life (most authors busy at their desks do) and she knew it. But she had the talent to make of those dullish days something far from dull. She set out, one day in 1950 in a small room in a mud-brick house near the city of Nimrud in Iraq, to write an account of her second husband on an archaeological expedition, to produce "a dwelling back on those memories that stood out in my mind; times that have mattered to me, places and incidents that have enchanted me."

The daily life of her childhood home in late Victorian Torquay comes to us vividly as

if it had happened this morning. The same goes for girlhood and young womanhood in Torquay, in Paris, in Cairo, and for whirlwind romance in the altogether peculiar atmosphere of a calm and steady nation suddenly finding itself hectoring at war.

Only when her vaguely chronological account reaches the Second World War do the pages become a bit raggedy and diary-like. But all the way up to then this is a real book that says something worth hearing about life and the way one person lived it.

Seldom indeed does she descend into anecdote, that bane of biography, and even then her stories are almost always at least good dinner-table stuff often salted with homely philosophy, by no means to be despised. And if she tells us little about the war she wrote the books that turned her from a not ordinary wife and mother into one of the best selling authors ever, well, that is largely because there is, really, little to tell.

The book is enhanced by snapshots photographs that often make you say "Ah, so that's what he looked like" and by half a dozen colour reproductions of family portraits which are yet more revealing, and jolly charming too.

In short, here is a study of that passionately interesting person an ordinary human being. It is told us by someone with the rewarding gift of vivid recall and with a fine talent for clear telling.

H. R. F. Keating

Also published today: *A Poirot Quincentenary The Murder of Roger Ackroyd, The Mystery of the Blue Train, Dumb Witness, After the Funeral, Death on the Nile*, the first volume in Collins' Collectors' Choice series, at £3.75.

Colin Middleton Murry's first volume of autobiography, *One Hand Clapping*, was not only a penetrating account of a terrible marriage, that of his father, John Middleton Murry, with his third wife, Dorothy, but also a delightful and amusing book, which left the reader longing to know what happened to Colin, his sister, Weg, his half sister and brother, Mary and David, when the marriage broke up. *Shadows on the Grass* continues his life, interwoven with the journals his father left, and so we get both sides of the argument, and wonder again that Colin managed to survive the emotional battering of his early years.

Survive he did, moving from the loved childhood home, the Rectory, Lulling, to the farmland "Conche Farm" the locals called it—where his father's theories of community and service with pacifism were put into practice, severely strained by his utter lack of judgment of the character of other people. Colin escaped to the Navy, and a war service spent entirely on

the home front, though he managed to pick up a tropical virus "the closest I had been to the tropics was the Hawan Bar in Dundee this seemed both unfair and unlikely."

Oxford followed, and then adventures in the book trade and marriage to Ruth, who not only believed in him but trusted him. It seems that though this love and trust, encountered for the first time, helped to improve the strained relationship with his father. Though they acknowledged that they loved each other, his father could never bring himself either to approve or to encourage, except in a series of qualified negatives.

In a book which is often very funny, particularly about his tedious experiences, Colin Middleton Murry paints a touching portrait of his father, that extraordinary man, gifted in many ways, except for relationships with other people. There was one exception, and she was his fourth wife, with whom he achieved the happiness which had eluded him for so long. The book ends with his father's burial in 1957, on a love which had been of the utmost importance to his son.

There is one small grouse, however. The book is written in the present tense and at times it comes terribly close to the pretentious and the arch. Miss Lash just about gets away with it, because the book is short enough to cope with it and because the rhythm of her story line can maintain it.

It is a near thing, but she succeeds.

Get Down There And Die is a haunting little novel by an exceptionally interesting writer. Margery Sharp's *Summer Visits* is the least demanding and most unpretentious of the batch. I enjoyed it enormously. The story line is simple. It concerns a century in the life of a country house and the people who live in it.

The structure of the book is soundness itself, and on it Miss Sharp has built a story of delicacy, humour, sadness and, above all, great style. Miss Sharp is a confident writer, because she is a true craftsman. It keeps harping on about craftsmanship, but when you see it in action like this, you realize how vital it is.

Peter Timmiswood

Shadows on the Grass
By Colin Middleton Murry
(Gollancz, £4.95)

Colin Middleton Murry's first volume of autobiography, *One Hand Clapping*, was not only a penetrating account of a terrible marriage, that of his father, John Middleton Murry, with his third wife, Dorothy, but also a delightful and amusing book, which left the reader longing to know what happened to Colin, his sister, Weg, his half sister and brother, Mary and David, when the marriage broke up. *Shadows on the Grass* continues his life, interwoven with the journals his father left, and so we get both sides of the argument, and wonder again that Colin managed to survive the emotional battering of his early years.

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Storm-tossed

Churchill and the Admirals
By Stephen Roskill
(Collins, £8.50)

This is the story of one of the great love-hate affairs of all time, between Churchill whose ideas on seapower were romantic and frequently wrong, and a mixed bunch of sailors who had to put up with them.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Cuninghame once remarked that Churchill was "a bad strategist but doesn't know it, and nobody has the courage to stand up to him." That is an alarming indictment if Cuninghame was right, and the conclusion drawn from this latest study must be that he was.

"My heart is in the Admiralty," Churchill confided to Lloyd George in 1918, and it was both the navy's fortune and misfortune in he courted by such a virile politician who would rarely take no for an answer.

He brought to the navy as he brought to Britain as a whole all the energy, courage and imagination that drove men forward—though not always in the right direction—and the signal "Winston is back" which ran through the fleet in 1939 on his return to power as First Lord of the Admiralty, indicated that the attraction was mutual.

But he was also obstinate, bullying and sometimes vindictive, faults which would have been less significant had his judgment of naval men and matters not been so often impaired.

It was also unfortunate that his experiences at the Admiralty in the First World War coloured his perceptions during the Second, and strengthened his determination to select a First Lord and a First Sea Lord who could be manipulated. It was not until Cuninghame succeeded the dying Dudley Pound as First Sea Lord in October, 1943, that a better balance was struck between political and professional values.

How far Churchill interfered with the conduct of naval operations as First Lord has become a matter for dispute between Capt Roskill and Professor Arthur Marder—who has previously argued that Churchill's meddling was far less than Capt Roskill states (an appendix at the back of this book is devoted to this academic fracas). But his close involvement when Prime Minister is generally accepted.

It is, however, his strategy which is most ruthlessly examined here. He was for instance "wildly wrong" in the Far East, where he totally misjudged both the danger from Japan and the vulnerability of

Singapore, and took decisions which destroyed "not only Britain's position in the Far East but that of other European powers as well."

He is also castigated for his share in the 1941 disasters in Greece and Crete, where the attempt to defend Greece probably delayed the clearance of the German and Italian armies from North Africa for up to two years; for his "addiction" they were, which wasted resources; and for his acceptance of the "unconditional surrender dogma" at Casablanca in 1943.

The most serious misjudgment of all, however, was his determination to bomb Germany instead of concentrating upon securing the sea lanes. Admiral W. J. Whitworth, Second Sea Lord, in a letter to Cuninghame, described the Admiralty's battle with the Air Ministry as "much more savage than our war with the Huns". Had the Admiralty's priorities been accepted, concludes Capt Roskill, the battle of the Atlantic could have been won at least six months earlier "with far-reaching effects on the course of the war and indeed on the condition of post-war Europe".

But A. V. Alexander the First Lord and Dudley Pound, a sick, worn-out figure, were not strong enough to cope with Churchill—obsessed as he was by his strategy of "offensive" measures.

It is hard not to feel desperately sorry for Pound, afflicted by osteoarthritis and aged 60, as he sat in his room, recounting a naval staff meeting in June, 1940, wrote: "After a very long time I noticed that Pound was drooping down the stem of his pipe—not just a drop, for I was at least five yards away. He may have not been asleep, but he was quite 'out for the count'—and the meeting was cancelled as if the Admiralty Staff had not been there. But he was admirably loyal to Churchill, and his unselfish assumption of blame for the loss of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse might be contrasted to Churchill's reaction—which was to look for a scapegoat."

This must be by definition something of a "bitty" book, tracing as it does one strand of a complicated story throughout Churchill's long association with the Navy. But it is still a hugely readable, fascinating study, full of scholarship and personal insight on the interplay of human character.

Henry Stanhope

Also just published: *Winston Churchill, the Companion Volume 1917-1922*, by Martin Gilbert (Helmman, £27), the documents and letters that were used in the fourth volume of the official biography.

Reviews next week: Michael Ratcliffe on *A History of Rhodesia* by Robert Blake; William Haley on *Lermontov* by Laurence Kelly; Louis Heren on *V. S. Naipaul's India*; Susan Hill on the last of P. G. Wodehouse.

GOLDEN BATS & PINK PIGEONS
Gerald Durrell

The author goes on a collecting trip to Mauritius, ancient home of the dodo, and relates his tale with the customary blend of anecdote, natural history and roaring high spirits. Not only an enjoyable volume, adroitly illustrated by Edward Mortelmans, it is also the best-written Durrell so far.

Tom Bentley, Yorkshire Post

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The soldier's soldier

The Trail of the Fox
The Life of Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel

By David Irving
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.95)

This is not an "Irving" book in the sensational context, Irving grinds no special axe, propounds no inflammatory theory, and makes no substantial alteration to the landmarks of Rommel's life and death as they are generally accepted.

What Irving has done in this remarkable exercise is to reassess the evidence, adding the results of his own extraordinary and exhaustive explorations into dusty corners, to round out every aspect of his subject. He has tracked down hitherto "unused" people and papers, and achieves what other Rommel biographers have never properly attempted, which is to give full consideration to the political factors that so governed military fortunes in the National Socialist state.

David Irving blows away the myth that Rommel was somehow a "pure" straightforward soldier with no interest in politics, serving his country while detesting its leaders. It was probably the "Socialist" element in National Socialism that appealed to Rommel with his anti-aristocratic outlook, and he went out of his way to praise the works and leadership of the Führer. The evidence against his complicity in any anti-Jewish conspiracy is convincing, and even till the end his was not the anguish of the exposed plotter, but of a man condemned for participation in something to which he had not been a party.

Irving shows plainly that Rommel's family were concerned after his death—however unpopular their attitude might be with the Allied occupation authorities—to stress the Field-Marshal's unswerving loyalty to the Head of State to whom he had pledged allegiance. (General Hans Speidel had quite a different concept of honour, and by an odd misuse of Rommel's name and reputation, he gained a somewhat doubtful respect, rising out of the myth from prisoner-of-war to Commander of the new West German army.)

Fidelity emerges as the keynote of Rommel's character—fidelity to his wife and comrades, and (however misplaced) to the leader to whom he had given his oath. Not that he appears here as an unblemished hero, for Irving's findings are not all so rosy.

As a self-publicist who resented anyone else sharing the limelight, Irving makes it all too clear that Rommel virtually deserted Africa when he was ordered to return to Germany, and that he might have stayed off or mitigated defeat there if he had not (untypical) insisted on retreating to the Mareth Line and beyond, when his colleagues (untypical) wished to stand and counter-attack. And his pride proved to be a terrible failing when he turned away from the Massada of the American Innocents ("our Indians" as the British and French in North Africa called them compassionately) to try to settle a personal account with Montgomery.

Yet with all his character weaknesses and military errors taken into account, Rommel still emerges as the most universally liked of wartime commanders. He was idolised by his Italian as well as his German troops, and almost as much by his opponents, particularly in the desert where, as Irving says, "for two years he withstood the weight of the British Empire on the only battlefield where the whole was engaged, with only two Panzer divisions and a handful of other ill-armed and under-nourished forces under his command. Some of us have stood with him, and some of us have stood against him, but all of us have stood in awe of him."

Irving does nothing here to offend susceptibilities or damage sacred cows. He has not needed to be outrageous or provocative to produce one of the best, and most vigorous military biographies to appear since the war.

Laurence Cottle

wreaks on all those with whom she comes into contact.

A dark, dark lady indeed is Miss Dart, and Mr Auchincloss is obviously ravished by the spicy pungency of the poor misfortunates who fall into her clutches

THE ARTS

Placido Domingo: what shall I sing next?

Most international tenors would consider that 1,300 stage appearances constitute a very respectable career. Placido Domingo has that number under his belt already, and reckons that he is just about the halfway point. The question is where to go now.

The roles Domingo has been recording in Britain this autumn, *Maurizio* in Cilea's *Adriano Lecocquer* for CBS and Don José in DG's *Carmen*, are natural enough choices. He has already sung over 100 José's, with the century mark being passed during Edinburgh's production of Bizet's opera. Domingo, like the festival's visitors, was satisfied with that performance.

"Their production was by far the strongest I have sung in. At Covent Garden, for instance, José was made a much too sorrowful, self-pitying character. In Edinburgh I think we managed to bring out José's obsession with Carmen and the witchery she exerts on him. When she throws the flower at him it is as though he is struck by a bullet between the eyes." The right knuckle strikes the left palm. "Pow..."

"I wish we could transfer more of the production on to record. In between performances, and after the run, we go into the studios and perform chunks of the opera in the space of about two weeks. But I wonder whether it would not be better to record the whole work right through four or five times and then piece together the best of each take. However much I try I never feel I sing the Flower Song, for example, as well in the studio as I do in a really good night on stage."

Adriano and *Carmen* will be 1978 releases. Domingo's two major sets this autumn have both been for RCA, the company with which he has chiefly associated. Giordano's *Andrea Chénier* and Verdi's *Forza*. They are among the best opera seasons of the year. But where is the *Otello*, which Domingo has sung now a couple of dozen times on stage?

"We are still discussing it. I'm half way through my career and obviously I want to record it as soon as possible. There should be room for two Domingo *Otellos* on the shelves, and the first is the vital one. We wanted to do it this summer, but Jimmy Levine, who conducted my *Otello* in Hamburg, and Sherill Milnes, the lingo there, were both in Salzburg while most of my work was in Verona or in Britain. Also a great deal of debate is going on about the Desdemona."



Photograph by courtesy of RCA Records

"Until last year I was under exclusive contract to RCA. They gave me the permission to record certain operas with other companies, such as *Meister-singer* and *Louise*, but only on condition that specific works were confined to them. Including *Otello*. Now I'm not sure what we do. Solit asked me to do *Otello* with him, but it wasn't possible. So did Carlos Kleiber. Abbado, Muti and Giulini all want to conduct it. We must arrange something very soon."

That Hamburg *Otello*

marked one crossroads in Domingo's career. This summer he almost took another path, that of Mozart. Salzburg tried to persuade him to sing Tamino in the new production of *Die Zauberflöte* at next year's festival.

"Jean-Pierre Ponnelle is saying it and he was very keen to have a Tamino and a Papageno who were physically similar. Bernd Weikl, who has already been engaged as the birdcatcher, and I look reasonably alike. But I worried about the Salzburg 'Mozart style'."

I've sung plenty of Don Ottavio. But would Salzburg like the way I do it? Do they want this? Domingo starts "Dalla sua pace" in the dreamy and rather bloodless way of a well-known German tenor. "Or do they want this?" The mannered method is thrown away in favour of something much closer to the Domingo sound. "I'm not sure that the same public could accept me as Don Carlos, say, and as Tamino. So in the end I declined."

Now that Domingo has

decided against Tamino will he move in the other direction and tackle the Tristan which has been a possibility for some years now?

"Not yet. When I agreed to that first *Otello* I had no fears. People asked me why I wanted to do it so early. They announced in advance that it would alter my voice. I knew that it wouldn't because that role has been inside me for years. But when they say the same thing about Tristan then they could be right. I've looked at the part and I think that the moment I start to sing it then I will have to give up 10 other roles which I don't want to lose. The other day I was in Monte Carlo doing extracts from *Butterfly* and *Lucia*; afterwards I listened to the tape and thought that I mustn't let the lyric quality for those works slip away from me. I had planned *Tristan* for 1981; now I feel it can wait."

Most years Domingo adds a new role to his roster. The next is Werther, which he sings in mid-December in Munich with Brigitte Fassbinder as Charlotte. "It may seem strange, but I'm worrying more about the physical problems: I've got to lose 10 pounds." (Domingo puts a belly which is far less ample than it was.) "Werther is a feat of endurance and no one is going to believe in a fat man who commits suicide. Fat men are almost always jolly men. Then I've got to come to terms with his character. Most of the lovers I perform are dominant, even if they die in the end: Manrico, Otello, Cavaradossi. The problem with Werther is to balance his naivety with those sudden outbursts of emotion. I've seen both Valteri and di Stefano come near it on stage and they will be the models, particularly di Stefano."

Domingo also has his eye on another French opera, *The Trojans*. He will record *The Trojan* of *Faust* with Raimondo Gamba before long, and that could be a pilot for the other Berlioz work in the repertoire. He would do a little conducting himself.

"In between those Munich *Werthers* I'll exchange the stage for the pit. We haven't quite decided what yet—perhaps *Ballo*, perhaps *Carlo*. I've seen both Valteri and di Stefano come near it on stage and they will be the models, particularly di Stefano."

John Higgins

Philharmonia/Klee Festival Hall

William Mann

Richard Strauss gave his *Four Last Songs* to Kirsten Flagstad, asking her to give their first performance. While he was composing them, a year or two earlier, we may suppose that he had in mind the voice of Victoria Ureale, for whom his last operatic soprano parts were written, a grandly florid voice like Flagstad's, with a perilously wide and slow vibrato. But Strauss's wife was also a noted soprano and Lieder singer, at the turn of the century when soprano's voices were pure and clear (there are no records of Pauline de Ahna, but she will surely have sounded much like Strauss and other fine sopranos, who did record Strauss's music early in this century, and it was of her that he was thinking emotionally as he composed those last songs).

Since Strauss's death, taste has, at any rate, favoured a soprano sound, for the *Lieder* of *Lieder*, less opulent than Flagstad's, it was in that tradition that Elisabeth Söderström, a favourite Strauss soprano at Glyndebourne (to go no nearer her native Sweden), came to the South Bank on Tuesday in

sing them with the Philharmonia Orchestra, which played for Flagstad at that first performance 27 years ago.

After a cheery onslaught on the first phrase of "Frühling", Miss Söderström floated pure, radiant, vocal, live, simply and sensitively blended with Hesse's (in the last song Eichendorff's) words. Her interpretation was, indeed, rather less intense or committed than expected, though these are not truly passionate songs, rather the gentle autumnal and Apollonian reflections of a contented old master. She imparted an unusual but apt touch of cheerfulness to the start of "Beim Schlafengehen": she captured the golden rapture of the final song with touching conviction. Earlier she had redistributed, as other singers do, the verbal underlay of Strauss's melismatic, quasi-instrumental lines, though she did not, as it is possible, restore the missing rhyme in "September".

She could, we knew, have given more intensity, even more richness of vocal colour to the songs: once or twice I regretted an classic approach. Bernhard Klee, who was conducting the concert, kept the orchestral music light and lucid in texture, except in "September", when the singer was sometimes swamped.

Street

Arts

Irving Wardle

Joan Aiken's new play for the Unicorn Theatre Club starts with herbed drill in a traffic-blocked village and ends with acts of magical death and propitiation in a primeval forest.

Vertical lift-off from the commonplace into the world of myth is a trademark of this admirable writer. Plays like *Wintering* and the present piece may fall into the modest category of "children's entertainment" but where else do you find any equivalent example of intricately plotted and original story-telling? "Is it set in the future?" my 10-year-old son asked, thus rumbling Miss Aiken's game. She is a time virtuoso. Her village is at once a familiar casualty of the motorway age and a surviving outpost of ancient native magic. Juggernauts hurtle down its narrow street, while witchcraft carries on behind the cottage doors. The situation is lifted into drama by a slight exaggeration of reality: the fact being that traffic is so bad in Street (the book), has been able to cross the road for years: the two groups of inhabitants have become deadly enemies and the truce taken on the character of a fragile conspiracy.

On this basis, Miss Aiken develops a fable of material greed and natural magic in which every move rings true and none can be predicted in advance. It is a long time since I have been so held by a piece of theatrical story-telling. Nicholas Barker's production, inaugurating his regime at the Unicorn, exhibits the curious mixture of visual and dramatic imagination peculiar to this company. I have no reservations about the performances of Gabrielle Hamilton, Ursula Jones and others who move at ease between setting and stage and handling, and wielding the magic wand.

The Bible in British Art

Victoria and Albert Museum

In how many ways the vast store of subject and idea contained in the Old and New Testaments has been given visual shape by artists in Britain is illustrated with a wealth of example in the loan exhibition, *The Bible in British Art*, now on view at South Kensington. The exhibition includes medieval manuscripts, oil paintings, drawings, engravings, designs for stained glass and some supporting representation of embroidery and sculpture. The works shown trace the changes and developments of thought and expression from the tenth to the twentieth century, beginning with the vividness of Anglo-Saxon outline in the "Caedmon" Gospels of c1000AD.

A drastic effect of the Reformation can be seen in the scantiness of Bible illustration then caused by the Puritan hostility to the visual image. The early printed Bibles make an austere contrast with the richly decorated medieval Psalter or Book of Hours. The painting of religious subjects virtually died out in Britain until the nineteenth century. But what may freshly strike the visitor to the present exhibition is the surprising vigour and variety of works inspired by the Bible from that time onwards.

"History" painting, of biblical as well as classical themes, gained a new esteem in the age of Sir Joshua Reynolds as an ideal form of art practised by the greatest European masters, eminently in place in the Academy if not in the Church. Burke's definition of the Sublime as contained in scenes of terror and intensity sent artists

back to the Old Testament for subjects as well as to the tragedies of Shakespeare and Milton's *Paradise Lost*.

One chosen theme was the skeletal fourth horseman of the Apocalypse from the *Book of Revelation*, versions of which are given by several hands including the phantom figure painted by Turner in the strangest of his conceptions. The romantic mood of the early nineteenth century responsive to storm and violence produced the stupendous idea of the Deluge from Genesis in which Turner is again magnificently to the fore, followed by the sensational stage-setting of John Martin and Francis Danby. Vision of another kind, the spiritual exaltation that William Blake so constantly derived from the Bible, has a greatly impressive example in his watercolour of *The Resurrection*.

Much concerned with religion and religious revival, the Victorian age had its own important contribution to make. The combination of realism with a strong element of devotional feeling is potent in the Pre-Raphaelite exhibits. A composite masterpiece of graphic art was the Dala's Bible Gallery, the designs of Leighton, Forster, Sandys and others gaining in dramatic power from the engravers' collaboration. Millais's illustrations to the Parables, of which a number are shown, form a series of comparable quality.

For all its scientific bent, the twentieth century has not lacked some outstanding individual interpreters of biblical themes, as we are reminded at South Kensington by Stanley Spencer's *Christ overturning the money-changers' tables*, Eric Gill's wood-engravings for *The Song of Songs* and *The Four Gospels*, Graham Sutherland's first cartoon for the Coventry Tapestry, and Paul Nash's wood engravings illustrating the Credo, in which abstract design well suggests the majestic generations of the theme. The exhibition continues until January 8.

Canadian musicians en route to Paris

Musicana

St John's, Smith Square

Joan Chissell

After last Friday's opening orchestral programme, the spotlight switched to chamber music in the second concert of the current little festival of Canadian contemporary music at St John's on Tuesday, with La Société de Musique Contemporaine de Québec under the direction of Serge Garant.

If the group was depleted by rows of empty seats there was no sign of it in their very confident performance. Perhaps the French will make amends when the programme (like four of the others) is repeated in Paris in the course of the fortnight.

Nationalism in music is out of date. Again, as on Friday, specifically Canadian characteristics emerged. The programme could have been heard at any European festival of contemporary music. Passing through the Tower of Babel, the music of the five composers is dangerous. I will merely say what interested me most, and why.

Gilles Tremblay's "Solitudes" (or "Les jours et les saisons nocturnes") is intriguing not only for very striking scoring

for horn, flute, clarinet and double-bass (representing winter, spring, summer and autumn respectively) and important percussion, but also for the way the work can be adjusted to the time and date of performance so as to be "in harmony with the movements of the earth, with its play of light and shadow."

Equally I liked "Madrigal IV" by Bruce Mather (another Messiaen pupil), with its sensitively judged mingling of flute and soprano, with pre-recorded tapes of the same duo, and plucked strings as go-between. There is *frisson* for the ear, but no mere striving for effect. Donald Steven's "Images" ("Refractions of Time and Space") for small electronic ensemble, albeit static, also explored scientific regions with delicacy of imagination. Each of its seven movements knows when to stop.

The group's director, Serge Garant, was represented by "Rivages", an Alain Grandbois setting for baritone and chamber ensemble, with a recurrent cued horn call to emphasize a mood of desperation. It certainly emerged more urgent and more concentrated than Brian Cherney's chamber concerto for viola and 10 players, in which deliberately gauche gestures provoke the others to explosive comments without getting very much further each time.

London debut

Opening her Wigmore Hall recital last week with Bach's French Suite No 5 in G major, Yuriko Murakami evidently took the view that if one is going to play Bach on the piano at all one might as well cut one's losses and play him pianistically. The view is not an unreasonable one though this procedure does not of itself solve the problem of interpreting music on an instrument for which it was not designed. Miss Murakami had much of interest to say in this performance, but the extent and nature of her phrasing in such movements as the Allemande and Sarabande and the continual dynamic shading threatened to deprive the music of its uniform consistency. A more direct approach in places might have yielded better results. The Courants and Gigue, marked by firm articulation, were more successful. Repeats were observed faithfully but original and elaborated versions were scarcely distinguishable: indeed at the end of the Sarabande Miss Murakami's imagination took wing for a bar and a half without the original notes having been heard—perhaps an uncharacteristic lapse of memory.

If her Bach might be criticized for being too eventful, her Mozart was certainly not that. Only the final Allegretto

of the B flat Sonata K 570 was a breathless surge of invention with no pause for recollection: the central slow movement sought, and found, grace rather than profundity, the cue being taken from the well-known troppo following the Adagio marking.

Dynamic and textural contrasts worked better in the two Beethoven sonatas, Op 27 No 1 in E flat and Op 109 in E. Surprising reserves of power surfaced here and although Miss Murakami's tone is generally free from harshness there was an occasional hint of over-exertion. The opening phrases of Op 27, however, were shaped in a well-calculated and purposeful manner that epitomized what was to come, while the faster passages had both rhythmic life and clarity.

In her closing Liszt group Miss Murakami showed that her technique easily encompasses the more overtly virtuosic repertoire as well. *La Legierenza* and *Les Jeux d'enfant à la villa d'Este* were both impressively handled and it was pity that it was in the Polonaise No 2 in E, when she was most enjoying herself, that Miss Murakami's enthusiasm caused a brief aberration; she recovered quickly to round off the recital with style.

Barry Millington

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Keith Michell and Penelope Keith

Shaw's vision of the future

The Apple Cart Phoenix

Ned Chaillet

Words, words, words take a while to reach audiences used to a surfeit of pictures and images on television and in films. But Bernard Shaw's parliamentary joke, *The Apple Cart*, is almost all talk, except for some sub-erotic scuffling between Magnus, King of England, and his mistress, and it can still capture and enrapture audiences. There is the rapture of a transfer from the Chichester Festival, that the words are spoken well and that the humour is never far from

the centre of attention, but despite some handsome staging it is the play and not the production that Mr Garland emphasizes.

It is Shaw's vision of the future, then the play presents us and in the scale of things that future should be coming true about now if it is ever to occur. Fortunately or unfortunately for England, Shaw's scientific view of society did not account for chaos, but for logical development. King Magnus, one of Shaw's supermen, is locked in conflict with the cabinet; not about becoming a republic, but about whether the king or a business-controlled cabinet is better suited to protect Britain from large corporations. The United States, meanwhile, has decided it

wants to return to the king's empire.

Keith Michell invests Magnus with the right amount of grandeur and deviousness to make a convincing monarch, unbeatable at the conference table but bullied and comforted by the women in his life. He has too much of the regal manner to dominate his sermonizing romance with Penelope Keith, but his command of the play is otherwise delightful. Miss Keith, in her few minutes on stage, conveys the content and brash charm that she needs to, and is fine in some rumbling love play, but Mr Michell's mortal, domestic side is only visible with the Queen, played by Jeanette Stork.

The Funniest Man in the World Theatre Royal, Stratford, E

Jeremy Treglown

So many British plays in the past 20 years have brooded on old comedians and comic styles with the moralizing glumness of Hamlet contemplating Yorick's skull that it is refreshing to see a music-hall documentary satisfied with telling a story and re-creating an atmosphere.

Don Leno first reached fame in Oldham as Champion Clog Dancer of the World in 1883, when he was 20. Before his death in a lunatic asylum in

1904 he had become the hero of the balls, the doyen of pantomime dames and the favourite comic of Edward VII. What he wanted most himself was to play Richard III.

Few people are better qualified to write a show about him than Daniel Farslow, the author of an earlier Stratford East musical (as well as a book) about Marie Lloyd, and *The Funniest Man in the World* is a predictably detailed and affectionate, as well as funny, account of Leno's rise and fall. The production is strongly and flexibly cast, but everything inevitably hangs on Sam Kelly's virtuoso impersonation of Leno: solemn, hunched, staring around nervously while his fantastic anecdotes proliferate as if he had nothing to do with them at all; dressed in a

shredded dinner suit and sou'wester, telling a free-wheeling, nonsensical story of shipwreck; or as a Beefeater leading a tour of the Tower of London aimed exclusively at getting the visitors into what he keeps referring to, with an appallingly anxious grimace, as "the Rree-Freshment Room".

The show goes soft near the end, its short-hand version of Leno's disintegration hovering between straight documentary and the marshmallow sentimentality of music-hall itself. But the closing minutes are nightmarish enough to retrieve what has anyway been kept buoyant by the embers of the earlier acts.

Jenny Tiramini and David Fisher designed the adaptable, jocosely party set, all frosted glass and pink rosebuds.

Catholic Church. John Molloy plays the main part, and others in the cast are Stephen Brennan, Eileen Colgan, Ingrid Craigie and Clive Geraghty. Patrick Mason directs.

The run of *The Good Woman of Setzuan* will be extended for one week to November 19.

Abbey introduces new Irish playwright

The Abbey Theatre Company is to visit the Royal Court Theatre introducing the work of a new playwright, Thomas Kilroy, whose play *Talbot's Box* recently scored success in Dublin. The season in London

runs from November 22 until December 17. The play is about Max Talbot, working man and mystic, caught up in the great social events of Irish history. His contribution to the cause of socialism is still a subject of controversy, and he is being promoted as a subject for canonization by the



William Blake: The Resurrection—the Angel rolling away the stone from the sepulchre

THEATRES

YOUNG VIC (The Old Vic, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 8

SPORT

Racing

Impressive Havanus looks bound for top

By Michael Seely

There was a first-class day's racing at Newbury yesterday. David Morley and Fred Winter showed us two novices of exceptional promise in their respective departments. Havanus, an outstanding four-year-old hurdler two seasons ago, gave a sparkling display of quick and accurate jumping when slaming a useful field in the Hallowe'en Novices' Steeplechase.

The afternoon had started on a high note when Gruffandrigm, the latest in a long line of smart performers that Winter has bought from Eddie Harty, justified 2/1 favouritism with a four-length defeat of Thunder Run in the first division of the Wood Speen Novices' Hurdle (part one).

Havanus's former owner, the late Major Bob Hoare, would have been thrilled by the five-year-old's brilliant effort. Having his first run of the season and making his first appearance over fences, Havanus was continually out-jumping the favourite, Rough and Tumble, who was making the running. Going ahead at the fifth from home, the French bred made his only mistake at the third last. Havanus went clear to beat Line Shooter by five lengths with Hardatit eight lengths away.

Morley was astounded at the ease with which Havanus had won. He considered the gelding as sure to be in need of the cutting. An exceptionally handsome animal, Havanus rather lost his form last season only winning one race, at Lingfield Park. But as often happens with horses who have raced on the flat as three-year-olds, have a busy campaign over hurdles, that winter and are then gelded, it seems to take a year for them to



Approaching takes the last fence on his way to victory over Jimmy Miff.

recover their confidence and strength.

Morley was quick to pay tribute to Captain Charles Radcliffe, who has spent hours teaching Havanus to stand back and jump off his hocks in his loose school at his home at Lew in Oxfordshire. Captain Radcliffe then advised the Bury St Edmunds trainer to give the gelding only one spin over fences before his first run. So Bob Davies had only jumped six obstacles on Havanus prior to yesterday's victorious first appearance.

The sky now appears to be the limit for Havanus, who is owned in partnership by Major Hoare's widow, Betty, and his daughter, Mrs Caroline Peacock. Gruffandrigm was equally impressive and appears sure to take high rank in his new role. An easy winner of two amateur riders' races in Ireland, the four-year-old hurdled fluently yesterday. Winter has made no firm plans for Gruffandrigm, but gave an infectious grin when quizzed

as to the gelding's future objectives. "I'm surprised if I didn't win a decent race or two with him", he said. The Lambourn trainer went on to say that the gelding would run at Kempton Park next week, leaving Countess to his representative in the Black and White Gold Cup at Ascot.

Josh Gifford, who saddled the runner-up Thunder Run, went on to complete a double with Shore Captain and Approaching and is now leading trainer with 19 successes to his credit. Approaching is an extraordinary animal. For most of the three miles of the Molebrook Handicap Steeplechase the six-year-old was centring over his rivals. But once clear, Approaching reverted to his old habit of making mistakes and at the line had only a length to spare over Jimmy Miff. His jockey, Bob Champion, must have been the most relieved man on the course when Approaching scrambled over the last fence.

Another trainer to saddle two winners was David Barons with Jolly Mick in the Chequers Opportunity Hurdle and Penumbra in the Winner Games Handicap Steeplechase. Barons completed a treble when Light Infantry scored at Worcester. Although Penumbra last won by four lengths, he was perhaps a little lucky as the eight-year-old is not the heaviest of horses. Jolly Mick was still running stoutly when a blunder at the last fence finally put paid to his chance. Bill Smith told Folke Wadsworth that if the Queen Mother's 10-year-old had stood back and "pinged" the final fence, he would have succeeded in defeating his 12st 2lb.

Walwyn confirmed that the Hemesay Gold Cup would be Fort Deva's preliminary race before the season's start on the King George VI Steeplechase. The Saxon Horse trainer considers Fort Deva to be the most reliable horse at Newbury as he is 7lb worse off than the most reliable horse at Kempton last Boxing Day.

Never Rock to turn the tide for Walwyn

By Michael Seely

Folke Walwyn has had an exhilarating run of seconds lately, but his luck may turn as he cautions this afternoon with Never Rock who runs in the "Badger Bi-Centenary" Handicap Steeplechase. Never Rock ran a fine race when chasing home My Friendly Cousin at Ascot and the winner was unlucky not to beat Dava Breaker at Cheltenham last Friday.

Toby Harding's Commandant, whose sequence of three victories in a row at the end of last season culminated with a triumph in the valuable Hemesay Steeplechase at Ascot, probably represents the chief threat. Commandant made a promising first appearance of the season when third to Kilbroney at Ascot. The five-year-old is sure to be the sharper for that race, but at the weights I just prefer Never Rock.

There is a significant crop of novice steeplechasers around at present. Havanus, the Bunter, made special arrangements to be sent to the field and he has five horses who have shown great promise in this sphere. This afternoon's novice steeplechase promises to throw more light on the situation.

There are several other promising young recruits in the field and I am siding with Strambolus, whose best effort last season came when he beat Never Rock and other runners in Windsor's New Year's Day Hurdle.

Lifebelt of the industry will have to tighten own belt, Plummer says

The Horserace Betting Levy Board's sixteen annual reports, covering the 12 months ended 31 March 1977, was published yesterday. During the period under review, the revenues of the Board rose from £25,584,848 to £27,813,000. The uncommitted reserves of the Board at the end of the period were £4,636,000.

Commenting on the financial situation detailed in the report, Sir Desmond Plummer, the chairman, said yesterday: "While we have been able to maintain a healthy surplus it must be remembered that in times of adversity the Levy Board is the lifebelt of the industry."

"In the period covered by our latest report, for example, the extremes of weather conditions will result in the loss of half a million pounds to the levy which has outweighed the savings made on prize money. In addition, we have had to make special arrangements for the loss of some fixtures and the cost of transfer of others."

We also announced 20 extra days' racing, made special arrangements for the loss of some fixtures and the cost of transfer of others. We also announced 20 extra days' racing, made special arrangements for the loss of some fixtures and the cost of transfer of others.

"With the inflation rate declining and betting turnover rising again it is obviously necessary to continue the controlled reduction in the level of our

reserves. However, on present estimates and assumptions they could well be used up by the end of 1979/80—earlier than that if we do not get the additional £2m of levy revenue for which we are hoping next year—so even tighter control over our expenditure seems inevitable."

The Board continued its policy of increasing prize money for the benefit of the whole industry. Its 1977 contribution rose by £1m to £5m.

The basic daily rate for all races was increased significantly and the minimum value of all races, with the exception of selling, claiming, and apprentices' races, was increased from £500 to £500.

All plates, with the exception of selling races in group four jumping were eliminated and minimum values for steeplechases and hurdle races were also generally increased.

Racecourse grouping for both flat and jumping was reviewed and a number of changes were made. Due to the narrowing of differentials between the lowest jumping groups because of increased prize money the number of racecourse groups for jumping was reduced from five to four. Grants to flat and jump racing were increased by £27,000 and £15,000 respectively, and special feature grants for Ayr, Haydock Park and Newcastle were increased by £5,000 each to £5,500 in the previous year.

To boost confidence at a time of rapidly rising costs throughout the industry, the board announced their 1978 prize money contribution earlier than usual. Their 1978 contribution of £5.5m represents a 40 per cent increase over their allocation in the current year.

Although this was the maximum sum which the Board considered could be made available in the context of the rising cost of their other responsibilities, the new allocation does not yet enable the Board to meet its initial policy objective. This is to ensure that the owner of a horse that wins on a group one or group two racecourse receives after deductions prize money at least equal to half the basic annual cost of keeping a horse in training.

The board submitted detailed written evidence to the Royal Commission on Gambling in relation to both their interim report and their main inquiry. The board also assisted the Commission with a supply of statistical data.

A total of £1,794,106 was spent by the board on modernisation schemes at 52 racecourses. In the allocation of money from the capital works pool, priority was again given to projects designed to improve conditions for those working in the industry and, in particular, to the provision of accommodation on racecourses for stable staff and jockeys. Large-scale improvements were carried out at Cheltenham, Doncaster, Epsom, Rye House, Nottingham, Ripon, Stratford-on-Avon, Thirsk and Warwick.

Problem for Forster

Master Spy's convincing victory under top weight in the Geoffrey Elton Steeplechase at Worcester yesterday left Tim Forster, his trainer, with a problem. Forster, who has had seven winners in the past five racing days, said: "I never dreamed he would win. I thought he was too short of work."

Although the eight-year-old Master Spy did not appear to put a foot wrong this time, he is an animal who makes mistakes. "Master Spy will obviously get 12st 7lb in order to win, so it only leaves the big ones. He's in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury at the end of the month with 13st and we shall have to think about that", Forster said.

It was at the tenth fence that Thorner jumped Master Spy to the front and, going into the turn for home, he drew clear of his rivals. The odds-on favourite, Autumn

Rain, made his effort three fences out, but never really looked as though he was going to catch Master Spy, who stayed on well to score by five lengths.

Charlie Mouse nearly made it a double for Forster in the Osbaldeston Steeplechase. Charlie Mouse was making her first appearance on a racecourse for 18 months after leg trouble and Thorner produced her with a rattling run from the last fence to get within a head of the favourite, Party Line.

There was another tight finish in the Victoria Hurdle, in which Light Infantry and Valuable Coin came away from their rivals on the flat, racing neck and neck to the post, with Paul Leach getting Light Infantry home by a short head.

Disson, with only four horses in his yard at Carlisle, has now had three successes and a second from seven runners. "I don't like going down to Ascot, as I prefer having runners up here, but Jonjo will ride Crofton Hall there", he said. O'Neill completed a double with

Crofton Hall's Ascot chance

Crofton Hall will be John Dixon's first runner at Ascot. Crofton Hall, a home-bred eight-year-old, booked his ticket for the Black and White Whisky Gold Cup over two miles on November 19 when backing up by 12 lengths from James Three in the Cherry-tree Steeplechase at Kelso yesterday.

Jonjo O'Neill had Crofton Hall quickly into his stride and made every yard of the running. At the sixth fence, Brown unseated his rider, Colin Hawkins, and although Crofton Hall made a slight mistake three out, he never looked like being caught.

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Newfoundland and brought his score to 34 this season. Newfoundland, winner of five races on the flat and one over hurdles in France, provided Mrs Lau Hamilton, who trains six horses under permit at Melrose, with her winner of the season.

It was a wide-open race with Newfoundland joining the leader, Indian Emperor, at the last fence. He did not go clear until the last 50 yards to beat Indian Emperor by three lengths. Mrs Hamilton said: "Newfoundland will be the North. He loves running in small fields."

Eric Collingwood, who is off to train in Hongkong next year, has made a wonderful start to the new jump season. He saddled his seventh winner from only 10 runners when Mrs Bee cruised home by an easy four lengths from Costa Mist to the Edna Novices Hurdle (division one).



Walrus Sports Centre playing Crofton Leisure Centre in the third round.

Tate & Lyle Sportswoman reaches fourth round—the area finals

There are now sixteen teams left in the Tate & Lyle Sportswoman Competition out of the 113 entered representing sports centres all over the country.

(Home teams first)	
Deeside Leisure Centre v Rowlinson Sports Centre on Sunday, 13th November at 3.00pm	NORTH WEST FINAL
East Leake Leisure Centre v Bingham Sports Centre on Sunday, 13th November at 4.00pm	MIDLANDS FINAL
Haltemprice Sports Centre v Concord Leisure Centre (Date to be arranged)	NORTH EAST FINAL
Luton Regional Sports Centre v Thetford Sports Centre on Sunday, 27th November at 3.00pm	EASTERN AREA FINAL
Vale Farm Sports Centre v Dacorum Sports Centre on Sunday, 4th December at 7.00pm	LONDON FINAL
Wallsend Sports Centre v Burnhead Sports Centre on Sunday, 20th November at 2.30pm	SCOTTISH & NORTHERN FINAL
Walrus Sports Centre v Worthing Sports Centre on Friday, 18th November at 7.30pm	SOUTHERN FINAL
Match already played:	
Abertillery Sports Centre beat Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre	WELSH FINAL

The Tate & Lyle Sportswoman is a knock-out competition between teams of women representing sports centres all over the country. Each match includes 5-a-side hockey, netball, table tennis, badminton, and a relay race, with points awarded for each. The sports centre with the highest points total at the end of the match proceeds to the next round. There will be a grand final between the last two sports centres.

Sports like these require lots of energy. One of the best and cheapest sources of energy in a balanced diet is Tate & Lyle's pure British-refined sugar.



Details of the draw for the Quarter-Finals will be published in the national press in due course.

Wincanton programme

1.0 NOVICES HURDLE (Div 1: 4-y-o: 5459: 2m)

- 1.0-2-1 Jackdaw, W. Fisher, 11-5
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Southwell programme

1.15 BURTON JOYCE HURDLE (Div 1: 4-y-o novices: £272: 2m)

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Your chances of owning a new Rover are increased.



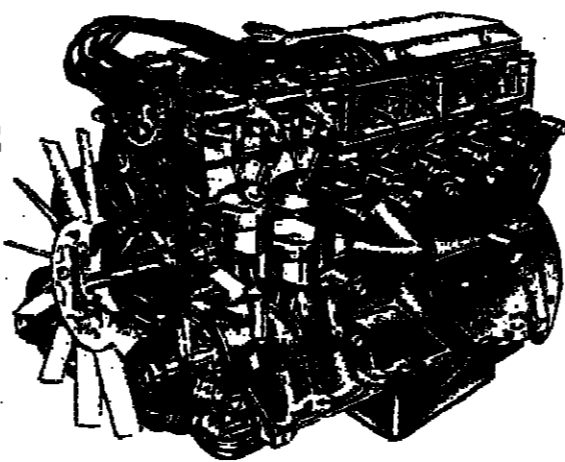
The new Rover 2600

The new Rover 2300

Dreaming of a new Rover 3500? It's time you stopped. Leyland Cars announce two new models, the Rover 2300 and the Rover 2600. Now there's a real opportunity for you to own one of the country's most desired cars at an even more reasonable price.

The new Rovers share the same, aerodynamic, fuel-conscious styling as the 3500. Inside, there's the same astounding roominess and equally meticulous level of appointment. Rover's award-winning attention to safety is there, from general design to smallest detail.

And the two new Rovers feature completely new six cylinder in-line engines



A new source of power.

Both the 2300 and 2600 engines feature overhead camshafts, aluminium alloy cylinder heads using a cross-flow, slant valve configuration, based on an Award winning design. The viscous-coupled cooling fan and the unique Inlet Air Temperature Control systems help to maximise the fuel economy of these quiet and efficient engines.

rigorously tested over hundreds of hours and thousands of miles. They deliver exhilarating power through a 5-speed manual gearbox in the 2600 and a 4-speed version in the 2300, with an automatic option on both.

Power with economy—a 2600 in the right hands should match Motor's performance figures of 0-60 in 9 seconds, a top speed of 117.8mph and a touring average of 27.8mpg.*

The Rover 3500 opened a new world of motoring. The new Rover 2300 and 2600 open that world a lot wider. See them at your Rover showroom.



Rover
From Leyland Cars. With Supercover.



*Motor magazine. Car tested 2600 manual.

Ronald Butt

The rate for the job: who should get what, and why

Who and what is a special case? For what reasons should premium pay be given? For danger and for exceptional skill certainly. Incentive and just appreciation demand no less. But how much bonus, so to speak, should be added for unpleasantness, monotony or sheer boredom?

Certainly, the fireman look, by any account, underpaid and most of us understand their anger (even if we cannot yet bring ourselves to think that they will in the end be mastered by it). For which of us would do their job for the money they get—or indeed, for any money?

Personally, I could not scale the heights that they must and keep my head, and down a mine I should suffer from claustrophobia.

My nerve would also probably go if I had to work all day near a blast furnace, and the decibels of most factories would unsettle my reason and I should suffer the monotony of the assembly line with frayed nerves.

But then, I also must people practically every day who say: "I simply couldn't stand the pressure and the deadline, and I have to try to explain that but for the deadline production would be put off and off—waiting for the perfect way of saying the thing one is no longer quite sure one wants to say, and that the problems (with which I won't bore you now) are really quite different."

Still, a job that is intolerable to one man is bearable, or even perhaps attractive, to another. So perhaps, after all, it is not altogether easy to calculate additions to pay for unpleasantness or deductions for pleasantness.

We would, however, all agree that a premium should be paid for a special sort of responsibility, whether it is the Prime Minister's, the chairman of ICI's or that of the surgeon who holds your life in his hands. And

here, after all, another consideration comes into it. Their high pay is not simply to provide an incentive to do the job but to create living conditions which take some of the strain out of life, since a tired Prime Minister obliged to catch the No 11 bus could be an unnecessarily incompetent Prime Minister (and how much more if he had to catch the No 17 bus), while the importance of not having a tense and exhausted top surgeon who is seriously worried about the mortgage explains itself.

But, again, there is a different sort of responsibility to be taken into account: the kind that goes with the possession of such great industrial strength that it cannot (or almost cannot) be used. The miners ultimately have such strength, though we could carry on for a bit without them. The electrical workers have it immediately, at the turn of a switch.

That is why the electrical workers finally refrained from exerting their strength under Mr Heath's government and it is why (because it may mean life and death for many ordinary citizens) we hope they will refrain now. But other pressures than civic responsibility come into it.

It used to be argued, when we agonized over these matters in Mr Heath's time, that the reason why the miners could stick it out, and the electrical workers could not, was that when the miners were home they only met other miners and they were cocooned in their own little world of mutual reassurance where their seldom met with the general public.

But the electricity worker, it was said, went home to neighbours doing very different jobs, who felt themselves the victims of any electrical irresponsibility. The consensus of fellow-citizens' rage, and contempt for destructive action was therefore (on this argument) more than the electricity workers could bear—which

also made their resistance weaker than the miners.

Whatever truth there is in that, the question of who should get what would be hard to reduce to a few formulae, even in the smoothest and most prosperous of times, and it is the chief bureaucrats. But what they lost in open pay, they would make up in fringe benefits even more concealed than those that operate in our own society—the special accommodation, particular facilities, access to scarce consumer goods, and so on. In all societies, power contrives to take its own reward.

No doubt it would be possible to arrive at a concept of who should get what, but I doubt if this could be based on everyone's freely given agreement. It would have to be imposed. So, in the end, what would be the real validity (in terms of "justice") of a pattern of wage distribution reached (even though with due consultation) in a committee room, and imposed by the force of the state? Precious little.

It is precisely the distortions of a flat rate incomes policy on differentials, including the firemen's, the miners' and that of the police, that have bred the present discontent. The lesson to be drawn from this is surely that, in the end, you have to pay what you need to pay to get the job done, and to attract enough men to do it in reasonable numbers, and you are probably then paying as near the "just" wage as is possible.

In other words, you are paying the market rate.

This is never produce a final and perfect answer. It will produce frequent adjustments because people's idea of what they will do, and how much they will do it for, changes. And of course, such a method is a huge challenge to the financial rectitude of a government,

which holds the purse strings in key monopoly industries.

It means that if the Government has to pay what seems to be an exorbitant wage to get a job done, it must see that the price of the product, and not the public purse, bears the consequences—even if the price has to be raised to the point at which the product is in danger of being priced out of the market.

If those who make wage demands know this—and this is the proper area of discussion between government, managers and employees—they will temper their behaviour accordingly. In the end, no incomes board can be a substitute for a free market and free bargaining, collective or individual, in wages, and for an honest financial policy in government. We ought not to have to learn that lesson all over again.

Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, is entitled to criticize as strongly as he likes the argument of my article (October 27) on racial litigiousness. It is not intended to allege that I "distort and mislead", and base this allegation on a suggestion that I said what I did not say.

He states in his article of November 4 that I said "got the law wrong" because the Attorney General and not the CRE is responsible for prosecutions for racial incitement. I am aware of this and nowhere did I say that, unless Mr Lane has chosen to construe the joke about Dr Johnson and a mythical eighteenth century CRE as implying this.

Secondly, he suggests that I said that the CRE was "obliged" to take up every individual complaint of discrimination. In fact I said not that the CRE was "obliged" to take up any case but that it was "entitled" to do so, which it is.

The facts that cry out for a wider police inquiry

The scope of the inquiry by Lord Edmund-Davies into

police pay and conditions is too limited. As part of their case, the police refer back to the analysis and findings of the last Royal Commission on the Police in 1960 which had, among its tasks, to examine "the broad principles which should cover the remuneration of the constabulary."

The commission went on to recommend in 1962 reforms in the exercise of control over the police, in the handling of complaints against them, and in their relationship with the public. The incidents which led to the appointment of the commission were important and disquieting, but issues that have arisen since are hardly less so.

They include the uncovering of deep-seated corruption in the Metropolitan Police, the accountability of the force and whether it should be inspected, like any other, by HM Inspectors of Constabulary.

Questions of principle are also raised by the operation of the Public Order Act, the increasing violence of demonstration, the threat of terrorism and the techniques developed by the police to deal with them. Above all, how are these changes affecting the distinctive and much admired nature of the British police and their relations with the public?

Like them, the police service has its own craft traditions and practices. A senior officer in Birmingham is called the "gaffer"; in the Metropolitan, the "guy" or "like all such jobs, police work has developed its own jargon. The kinky theft of women's underwear from clothes lines is known in Scotland as a "snow-job".

Who social reforms are understanding of the right of hippies and tramps to drop out of society, the police term for them is "slag". A CID officer who cuts corners through regulations is known as a "swift".

"Practical coppers" are much admired because they are good at "feeling coppers", if arrest is resisted and officers have to be restrained forcibly. On the other hand, graduates of the special course at the Police College, Bramshill, are sometimes called "five-day wonders".

Like many a craft, the tricks of a policeman's trade may be handed down literally from father to son. The police are quite tribal in character. With the "Police Review" I traced one family's continuous service back to 1840. I also retraced the steps of a reporter who wrote a feature in the first issue of *The Strand* Magazine in 1891 about the river police. The Thames Division of the Metropolitan Force still had a blue lamp outside its Wapping headquarters; now as then policemen played military games on Waterloo Bridge, known in 1891 as the "Bridge of Sighs", is still a favourite place for suicides; and whereas news then came over the telegraph of a prize fight at Harewood, I heard a radio message about a punch-up outside a public house in South London.

Two changes threaten the corpus of knowledge and tradition that has been handed down since Victorian times. One is the creation of massive new police forces which, by

moving officers over greater distances, erodes their local knowledge. The second is the technological revolution.

Both changes are part of a tendency towards centralization and specialization. With the aid of computers, pocket-calculators and greater mobility, the police service is developing an admirably quick response to trouble as it occurs. The events of the past few years, with a spate of bombings, kidnappings, hostage-taking and international terrorism, has demonstrated the need for it.

As wanted men can travel swiftly over long distances, it has become increasingly necessary for policemen to have quick access to information stored centrally.

The question is whether the craftsmanship of the police, on which their special and much prized relationship with the public depends, can survive this revolution. There are warning signs that, because the policeman has to respond more and more to calls on him as communications improve, he will have less opportunity to develop a close relationship with the public and to exercise the aid of the knowledge he builds up, the greatest power a policeman has—of discretion.

Policemen say that because of the number of experienced officers leaving the force and the few that are available for the best, inexperienced officers are being forced into the front line. Moreover, the corpus of knowledge and experience in the police cannot so easily be passed on to them.

The quality of policing on the streets is also being diluted by the calls for manpower made by the number and variety of specialist squads. The need for specialist answers to special problems has always existed. But their development into more and more day-to-day police work means that the local policeman has less opportunity to see jobs through from beginning to end. He is becoming less of a craftsman and more of an assembly-line worker, doing his bit and passing the job on.

The development of a whole armoury of technology to aid policemen in fighting terrorism, listening devices, mini-cameras and the like—opened the possibility of their wider use. Radar traps are an example of a surveillance tool that has become commonplace.

Mr G. W. R. Terry, Chief Constable of Sussex, performed a valuable service in allowing television to show new methods in action in a recent case, so stimulating debate about the use of ground rules that he was asked to control over telephone tapping is a useful precedent, though there is unnecessary secrecy about the extent of its use.

Fortunately, a counter-revolution is also taking place. Some police forces are aware not only of the benefits of technology but also of the dangers of over-reliance upon it. They are acting to restore links with the community and invite its participation in crime prevention. There is no substitute for local knowledge of people by local policemen.

But that depends upon manpower, and manpower depends on pay. The issues are linked in a way that makes necessary an inquiry of deeper and wider scope than Lord Edmund-Davies can manage.

Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Why a simple election is no longer enough for the war-weary Rhodesians

Salisbury

This week Rhodesia celebrates the twelfth anniversary of its Unilateral Declaration of Independence with the prospects of a constitutional settlement still apparently as distant as ever.

Lord Carver, the Resident Commissioner-designate, has been and gone without making any significant headway except that he managed to avoid outright rejection of the Anglo-American settlement proposals by either the Rhodesian Government or the Nationalist Patriotic Front organization.

But the gulf between the Government and the Front seems wider than ever. The Government still seems to be thinking in terms of an internal settlement once the present British plan has failed. Mr Joshua Nkomo, supposedly the more moderate of the Front's two leaders, has been talking in Moscow of creating a "genuinely socialist" Soviet-style state in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia).

Meanwhile the war goes on, taking an increasing toll of black and white lives. Last month 233 "terms" (a derogatory term for black insurgents) were killed, the second highest monthly figure since the war began. The number of whites being killed is also rising. This, together with the in-

creasing number of whites leaving the country, is putting enormous strain on the European population.

Paradoxically, however, despite their failure of the various political leaders to narrow their differences, the potential for a settlement seems greater since UDI. For a settlement has been a marked change in attitude among the nation's 260,000 whites. The majority now seem to be prepared to live under a moderate black government so long as there was a reasonable chance that law and order and general standards were maintained.

As one white farmer who had just returned from 28 days police reserve duty commented: "Two years ago my fellow reservists were just interested in killing terms. Now they would go along with a reasonable settlement to-morrow if one could be arranged."

This change in attitude is the result of a growing sense of war-weariness. This does not mean that defeatism is in the air. Far from it. The whites have the ability and the will to contain the guerrilla incursions for years if necessary. But the lengthy military call-ups (190 days a year for those aged 38 and under) coupled with the rising casualty rate are placing

increasing burdens both on family life and on the economic health of the nation.

The white business community in particular is being hard hit by a settlement. The economy has performed amazingly well in the face of sanctions and other outside pressures, but the strains of war is beginning to tell. Business leaders are convinced that if a settlement could be found which protected white interests then Rhodesia could quickly experience an economic bonanza.

The country's 6,000 white farmers who produce 80 per cent of Rhodesia's agricultural output are also ready for a settlement, according to the vice-president of the National Farmer's Union, Mr Dennis Norman, but they want assurances that any settlement will contain safeguards concerning ownership of farms, the maintenance of infrastructure and, above all, the maintenance of law and order.

There is also a sense of war-weariness among the nation's 6,500,000 blacks, the people who are caught in the middle between the security forces who are "defending" them and the guerrillas who are "liberating" them.

The two main internally-based nationalist movements led by Bishop Muzorewa and the Rev Daniel Sibhohle both want to see a peaceful settlement—and by all accounts they command far wider support than does the Patriotic Front. However, the problem remains how to transform this widespread desire for a settlement into tangible shape.

This is the task now facing Lord Carver and the British

Government, a task which is not made easier by Mr Smith's apparent desire to score cheap political points off Britain's latest negotiator.

It is now clear following Lord Carver's visit that there are two major obstacles impeding the success of the present British-American negotiations. These are the security aspects of the British proposals and what could be termed the "external dimension" caused by the internationalization of the Rhodesia problem.

Lord Carver was left in no doubt during his five-day stay in Rhodesia that the whole question of security was the key to the success of any settlement proposals. As he put it, Rhodesians wanted to know that law, order, peace and security would be maintained even if they were to leave Rhodesia to their own devices.

The question of security during the transitional period and after independence unites all Rhodesians, no matter what their political affiliations. If they are to remain in the country there must be a credible, disciplined force to maintain law and order. This, they believe, can only be assured by maintaining the existing Rhodesia Security Forces more or less intact.

The British settlement proposals call for the disbanding of certain Rhodesian military units and the establishment of a new Zimbabwe army "based on the liberation forces". While the new army is being created the United Nations and the police would be responsible for law and order.

The Patriotic Front, on the other hand, wants to see the Government, a task which is not made easier by Mr Smith's apparent desire to score cheap political points off Britain's latest negotiator.

Rhodesian army completely disbanded and replaced by its own force. If that happened there would be a mass exodus of the white population to the one which took place in neighbouring Mozambique.

White fears on this score are to a large extent shared by the internally-based nationalist movements. They have no guerrilla armies of their own and realize that the incorporation of significant numbers of Rhodesian soldiers in a new Zimbabwe force would be greatly to their disadvantage. They therefore have a vested interest in seeing that the existing Rhodesian security forces, 80 per cent of which are black, rather than the "liberation armies" provide the basis of the new force.

Both the internal nationalists and Rhodesians whites fear that the British proposals as they now stand could lead to a Frim-type situation developing in Rhodesia in which the Patriotic Front, being the organization with the guns, would impose itself on the country during the transitional period before independence.

The Rhodesian Government as well as the Muzorewa and Sibhohle nationalists organizations have accused Britain of paying too much heed to the Patriotic Front and its backers the "front line" presidents. This charge is perhaps justified but Britain is not alone in this. Because the Rhodesian situation has become internationalized a settlement has got to be internationally acceptable.

Therefore, the Patriotic Front has the backing of the "front line" states, the Organization of African Unity and the UN, it would be hard

to gain international approval for any settlement which did not involve the participation of the Front.

One possible way around this would be to divide Mr Nkomo's wing of the Patriotic Front from that led by Mr Robert Mugabe and then encourage his return to Rhodesia to participate in elections. This is what Mr Smith tried to do when he went to see President Kaunda in Lusaka in September.

But the problem with this scenario is that Mr Nkomo is perfectly aware that he would not stand much chance of winning an election on his own. He would have to enter an alliance with one or other of the internally-based movements which neither of them seem prepared to consider at this stage.

For the moment the two patriotic front leaders feel they are better off pursuing their joint struggle from outside. Their present alliance may be an uneasy one but it is all they have got. They seem unwilling to put at risk what they have gained on the battlefield in order to take part in an election which they would probably lose.

It is a tragic reflection on the way the Rhodesian problem has been allowed to deteriorate that at a time when the white Government has finally accepted the principle of majority rule it seems that a straight-forward test of opinion by means of a one-man-one-vote election is no longer all that is required.

Nicholas Ashford

"Sometimes," she reflected, "The most beautiful things in life are the simplest."

"Like smooth pebbles on a beach, or the first snow-flakes in winter" "And watches you wind up by hand?" I teased.

She glanced at her wrist. And smiled, half to herself. "And Audemars Piguet watches," she murmured.

The plain golden face of her watch was relieved only by a delicately engraved rim, matching the smooth links of the bracelet which curved round her lightly tanned wrist, like a fine ribbon of solid gold.

In 18 carat gold, the watch had cost £2,240.

Which proves that, even though many beautiful things are simple, they often turn out to be rather expensive.

Audemars Piguet

This treated brochure and a list of appointed jewellers is available from Audemars Piguet, 67 Saffron Hill, London EC3N 8RS.

Blowing the trumpet for our heroes

As a spectacle of male chauvinism it was unrivalled. My invitation to the Men of the Year Luncheon at the Savoy yesterday was actually stated in the programme as "for men only." Dishes of other sex, it is true, were permitted to meet the 11 hungry recipients of the accolade over drinks pre-arranged.

The actual luncheon, however, was all male and very ruggedly so. Not a long hair in sight (except for Steve Overt, who looked pretty bored anyway) when Richard Baker (who seems to grow smaller in proportion to his fame) rose to read the citations. The Duke of Devonshire, who is chairman of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (the organizers of the awards) looked on approvingly as the guest speakers roared boldly into masculine affairs.

Bill Clark, MP, the deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, felt that in Britain we do not blow our trumpet sufficiently over our quota of heroes. Alec Bedser (who said snap when he spotted my MCC tie) obviously wished that certain cricketers were more heroic, but refused to discuss the matter. The other guest speaker was Steve Race.

Apart from Mr Overt, I was glad to see my old friends Chris Baillieu and Mike Hart among the select 11. Rowing must be one of the hardest amateur sports in which to succeed and Mr Baillieu said that while they

it only they were friends of that Martin Falkender...



would defend their double sculls world title next year, it was hard to look much beyond that.

Seven of the Men of the Year won citations for acts of bravery—the more heroic the better the less they seemed inclined to talk about them. The eleventh name on the list was that of Dr Frederick Sanger, the Nobel Prize winner. His work on the chemical structure of the entire genetic code, the secret of living organisms baffled me. So I talked cricket to Ken Barrington and John Edrich, who both looked very fit.

Message from the Norwich union

Viscount Norwich must have been glad he took his mother to a lunch-time speaking engagement yesterday. Lady Diana Cooper was such an attentive listener and such a useful interlocutor. And, in that jaunty black-peaked sailor's cap, fitting the part of the Royal Yacht Club, she lent an air of distinction to the top table (not, you understand, that it would otherwise have lacked it).

Lord Norwich was at the Royal Opera House—not on stage but in the Crush Bar, which is just as theatrical—to talk about the National Trust in Public Relations. As at one point, he talked about tourist pollution—the 40 million fingers stroking the same bit of marble in the Acropolis. Some way would have to be found

to make access to historic piles more difficult. "Except for the aged and disabled," chimed in Lady Diana who, though far from disabled, has had her first flush of youth. Her son, quite unabashed, echoed her words.

Then his lordship moved on to efforts to save our own beauty spots and named some of them. "And that park at Perworth," called out Lady Diana. Her son nodded in assent.

When he sat down to much applause, Lady Diana contributed two "Very goods". I got the feeling that the professional PR ladies present, representing everything from lipstick to the Goldblatt, not only enjoyed wedding the mother-son rapport but had learned a thing or two from amateurs about how to get your message across.

Rocking the musical myth

Being a keen student of Angevin affairs and, able as I am, to recite large chunks of *Murder in the Cathedral*, I booked an early ticket for the opening night at the Cockpit Theatre in north London of the latest rock musical, *Rock-a-bye Beckett*.

The authors, Rupert Gavin and Jeremy Jones have, however, put me straight by explaining that it is really about Tom Beckett, the rock star of the 'xnies, who rejects sex and

drugs and rock and roll and turns to religion while his manager tries to push him towards punk.

Spawning in Cambridge, the *Rock-a-bye Beckett* is a somewhat flimsy thing with the intention of assuaging cherished beliefs from T. S. Eliot to Tania Motown and from Johnny Rotten to the Beatles. With its Canterbury setting, it should be fun as well as allegorical. Beckett runs for four nights only in the first instance.

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Not misguided?

It was by a tortuous route, I learnt at the launching at the Mirabelle last night, that Egon Ronay's 1978 Guide came to be published in association with Penguin Books.

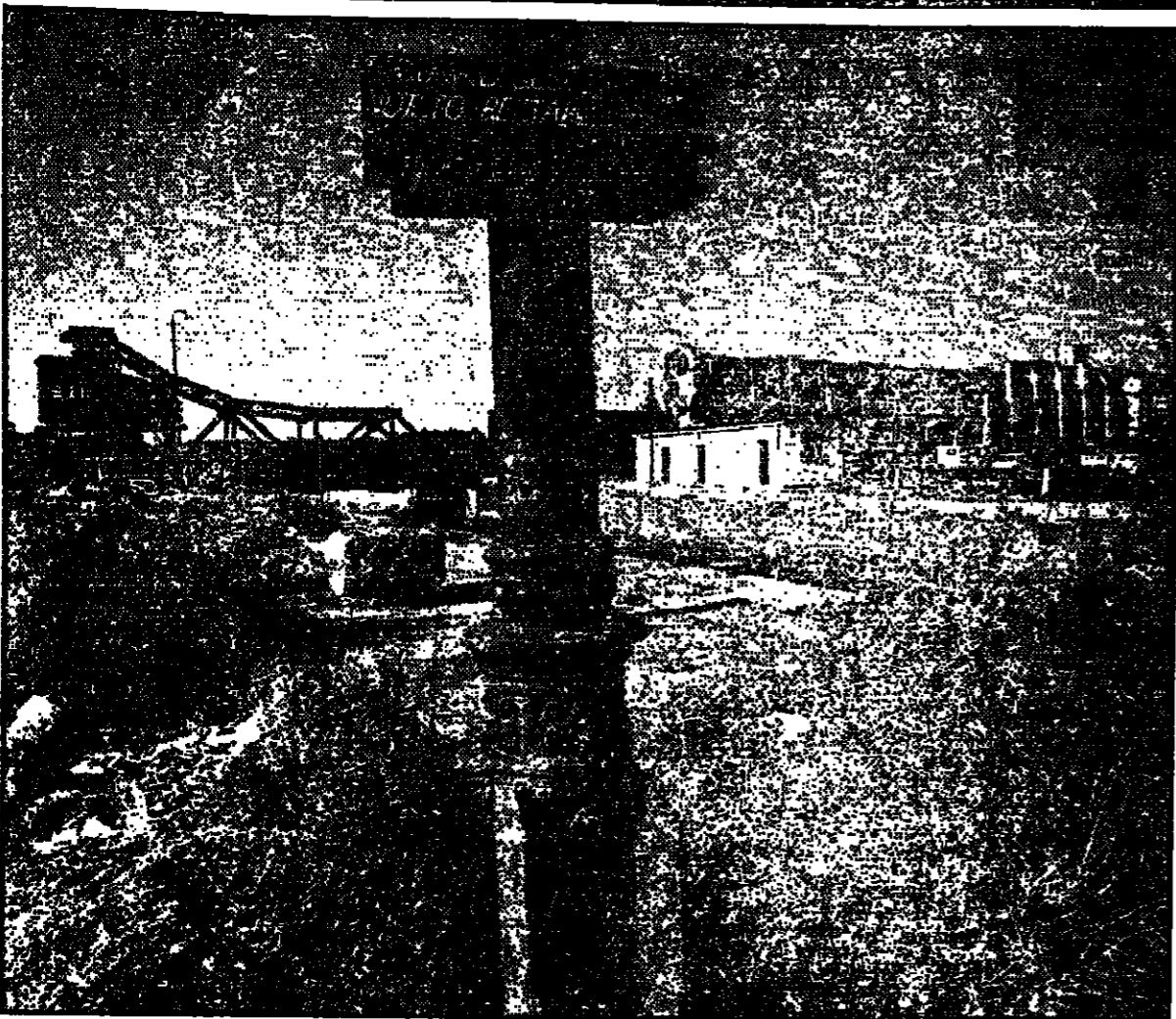
Mr Ronay was seeking a distributor in north America, and approached the Penguin subsidiary there, Viking Penguin. They asked John Birtan, marketing director of Penguin, what he knew of Ronay and he said, "wonderful" and followed it up.

Which is a little surprising, since at the time he was staying in a hotel in the Isle of Wight, chosen without reference to any guide, and conducted the negotiations throughout from a small back room among the clanking lifts.

Now if he had actually used the wonderful Ronay guide himself, he would have known to insist on a large seminar room, or to opt for the quiet cottage annex 100 yards away.

The annual review of *Reputations* activities claims: "Ronay has the most dense dealer network in Europe." *Reputations* UK asked for "dense" to be changed to "extensive" for the next edition of the annual. It has been changed to "extensive".

In a grand, democratic gesture that I hope will not be undermined by Disruption, Far Left, the programme for the London Film Festival which opens at the National Film Theatre next week lists everybody who will be doing their bit from controller to cleaner. The international complexion of the festival is stressed in the names of some of the members of the festival committee: Upp-Jensen, Eika Tupaia, from Malta and Maurice Smith. Also attending (and not, as you might have expected, taking with the catering) are Chief Cusack and Jeanette Roffe.



Derelict dockland in London.

London's dockland looks to the future

by Christopher Warman

Bringing life back to the derelict acres of London dockland has been a thorn in the flesh of the GLC as both public and private agencies have attempted, at a time of economic difficulty, to regenerate and redevelop that large area of east London.

A start has been made, and there have been conspicuous achievements, for example, at St Katherine Docks, but the difficulties remain. In the past few years the Government, the Labour-controlled GLC and the dockland boroughs have been laying the foundations for what would be, if it succeeds, one of the great changes in the face of the capital since the war.

The Conservatives took control of County Hall in May and they have the next four years in which to make their mark. Mr Horace Cutler, now leader of the council, when in opposition used to berate Labour leadership for its inactivity and declare that proper use of the 5,000 acres of dockland could remedy London's housing shortage.

Now in power he and his team are displaying signs of

determination to get things going.

In its term of office, Labour boasted of 1,000 new homes, 180 approvals out of 212 planning applications, a new industrial park at Beckton for 100,000 sq ft of industry, a £6m project with the Thames Water Authority to drain Beckton for housing and industry, and a development in Tower Hamlets to provide offices, warehousing, jobs and housing.

It saw a four-phase development up to the year 2000 costing £1,200m, with a new Underground line to dockland. "London and dockland are part of Europe's golden triangle which links Northern Italy, London and Germany's industrial belt via Belgium," Labour said in its election manifesto.

For Labour it was not to be, and the Conservatives assumed the mantle of regeneration, appointing Hugh Wilson, architect and planner, as chairman of the docklands joint committee, made up of the GLC and the dockland boroughs.

In August, Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced the allocation of £17m for construction schemes in dockland under the partnership arrangements of the Government's policy on inner city areas.

The money has gone to a number of road and rail projects which can be completed in the short term, and at the same time Mr Shore gave his blessing to larger schemes, including relief roads and an east London river crossing.

Mr Shore announced a further £45m for docklands under the partnership arrangements last month, which can be incorporated in the plans now being drawn up.

The one project the Government turned down was the Fleet/River Lane, renamed by the Conservatives the Jubilee Lane, which was designed to be the main link to dockland. The Government concluded that the line was unlikely to carry industrial workers to or within dockland, would lose money, and would not attract much capital for housing, shopping and services.

Without government assistance the Underground line to dockland, which it is called, will probably not be built.

Mr Cutler believes the Government's decision to be misguided. He regards the rail proposal as providing the essential means of linking those parts of dockland which have long been isolated from one another. "I have also regarded the construction of the railway as the means not only of

attracting development but also of enabling the public authorities on whose investment so much depends, to recoup some of their outlay", he said.

Despite the Government's stand, he announced that the soil investigation for the line would continue, and the council would promote legislation to empower its construction. Behind the public defiance, however, the council acknowledges that there will now be a long period of uncertainty about the line.

Considering the position, officers on the dockland joint committee decided that the GLC's proposals for works and improvements to the present rail network would provide an adequate interim solution which would not inhibit any future construction.

"We are satisfied that the railway works together with the roads now proposed provide an acceptable transport infrastructure for dockland", they reported.

Providing the basic services is the crucial matter and that is what the GLC as a strategic authority must do, to make possible the full redevelopment of the area.

In the meantime the GLC is pressing on. In the face of strong opposition from the Labour minority the council approved recently the

spending of £50,000 on a scheme to stimulate industrial and commercial interests in dockland.

In the longer term the GLC is campaigning for the establishment of a free port for the dockland area. The idea had been raised before, but the present administration has brought it to a new urgency, believing that a duty-free area near London could stimulate commerce and industry.

A deputation from the council recently spent a day looking round the free port of Hamburg during the conference of the International Union of Local Authorities. They were encouraged both by what they saw and by the Hamburg authorities, and are preparing their case to put to the Government.

These are still early days for the Conservative administration at County Hall as they carry on and adjust the joint dockland policy. Under the partnership scheme with the Government, the council is requested to come forward with a programme for action "in a concerted and committed manner" by next summer to cover 1979 to 1982. Then it will be seen how much nearer to realisation the dream has become.

The author is Local Government Correspondent, The Times.

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Wider role for office location bureau

It appeared at first that the new role given to the Location of Offices Bureau in May was a complete reversal of its previous 14-year existence. But things are rarely as they first seem, and the bureau was able to welcome its expanded duties while alarmed at misinterpretations of its change of clothes.

Although now those misconceptions have been cleared up the bureau faces another difficulty. Neither extra staff nor money has been provided by the Government to allow the full implementation of its new role, and indeed the autumn advertising campaign of the bureau scarcely reflects it.

When the LOB was set up in 1963, its function was to encourage the decentralization of office employment from congested Central London to suitable centres elsewhere.

That was at a time when the previous decade had seen an increase of 150,000 people travelling daily at peak hours to the centre of London and when the growth of office development was at its height.

The declining population of London and the loss of jobs, mainly in the manufacturing industries, over the last few years has led to a shameful decay in the inner areas, and the Government is now embarked on a policy to tackle that decay and its causes.

In line with the policy, Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced on May 17 that the bureau's somewhat narrow role would be widened to charge it with the task of promoting the better distribution of office employment in England and Wales.

Two specific new functions were added to the bureau's terms of reference—to attract international concerns so that they locate office employment in Britain; and to give particular attention to the promotion of office employment in inner urban areas. In the case of London this excluded the Central London area, largely the City and the West End, the parts from which the bureau had been decanting office staff for 14 years.

The Order in Council giving the bureau these new tasks came into force in August, but apart from the lack of staff and money, there is a good deal of research in progress which will be needed to help it to fulfil its role.

One charge the bureau is anxious to dispel is that it has been responsible for the decline in jobs in central London. In hard facts, 2,026 firms and 145,155 jobs were moved under LOB sponsorship from 1963 to

1977. During the same period, however, the bureau encouraged the establishment of at least 49,000 jobs in Greater London, excluding the central area.

The net gain in jobs is estimated at 1,500 in inner London and 35,000 in outer London.

Mr Anthony Prendergast, chairman, explained in this year's annual report: "As I have said on many occasions in the last few years the movement of office jobs from the City and the West End has merely levelled off an expansion which, if it had continued, would have brought the boroughs to the same time brought the benefit of increased office employment to the rest of the Greater London area."

In the year 1976-77, LOB moved 10,800 jobs, continuing the downward trend of the previous two years, and perhaps hiding a greater decline since 4,000 of the jobs moved reflected decisions taken before April 1975.

The effect of the dispersal of employment on job opportunities in the inner cities is at the heart of the arguments on inner area decay. Although much of the debate has centred on the loss of manufacturing employment, fears have been expressed that similar difficulties may emerge in relation to office jobs.

An analysis of moves in London showed that the small gain of jobs in the inner ring compared with the outer ring was in part because of the lack of office space—about one third of that available in Greater London as a whole. The difference clearly reflects the views of developers on the greater attractions to employers of a location in outer London.

Beyond the South-east, LOB research shows that, contrary to popular notions, a substantial proportion of moves to regions containing the largest concentrations has favoured the conurbations themselves rather than decentralized locations.

LOB sees its priorities as first the inner urban areas such as London's docklands, and then with the encouragement of international jobs in Britain.

On the international front, the bureau has had talks with government departments, including the committee on foreign trade. The bureau has prepared a leaflet offering its services to international firms.

"We are aiming for a better distribution," Mr Pat Macquay, secretary, said. This could mean an international bank moving into

central London, or a foreign business moving to Liverpool. Foreign firms would look at Britain with different eyes from British businessmen.

On the home front, the bureau has had discussions with most of the London boroughs to find out their views on office development. At present, LOB is still at the stage of seeing what their potential customers think before they establish their own part in the process.

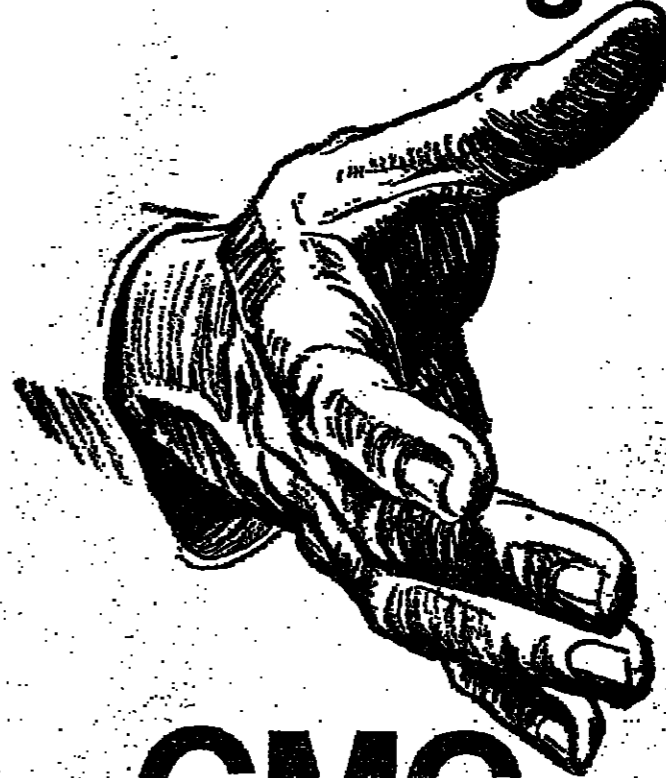
It may be that office development is not suitable for inner areas, though there is little doubt that the boroughs would like the rate income such development would provide.

The first £17m for London from the Government in its new policy had no provision for even a meagre staff for offices. They may come later when the areas have come back to life, and that could be a decade.

So for the moment, the bureau is talking, researching and asking the Government for staff to carry out its role. LOB did have a staff of 20, now reduced to 14. If its new terms of reference are to be much more than pious hopes, the bureau has an unenviable case for strengthening its muscle.

C.W.

Re-locating?



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Better shopping needed

continued from previous page City's development plan that "the most important shortages are mainly in modern small units under 1,000 sq ft and over 100,000 sq ft."

Even so, the City planners have certain reservations about future office development. Pointing out that buildings already under construction or schemes with planning permission will create enough floorspace to make further office expansion questionable, they also fear that large new buildings will erode further the number of small office units that are essential to firms associated with the City's traditional activities.

"If it becomes apparent that the loss of activities such as accountancy, estate services, for example, are reducing the external economies of the City's main financial functions, it may become necessary to adopt a more protective attitude to sustain the activities essential to the City's efficiency", says the background study paper on economic activity prepared by the city architect and planning officer, Mr Edwin Chandler.

Westminster's draft district plan also adopts a protective attitude. "The City council's office strategy is one of restraint, which sets out to control the growth of offices and to ensure that development is directed to those locations where it will be most suitable and advantageous," it says. These areas were listed in the Greater London Development Plan as Victoria, Charing Cross, Piccadilly, and the areas around Paddington Station and Marylebone Station.

M.H.

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Better shopping needed

Faced with unemployment figures in some boroughs that are as bad as the worst in Britain, there is no doubt that London could do with more industrial development, not only in dockland but also in other inner London boroughs, such as Hammersmith, Wandsworth and Islington. But there is also a need, surprising as it may seem, for more offices and shops of the right kind in the right places.

Anyone who struggles up Oxford Street to do the Christmas shopping may appreciate the need for improvement, for the partial pedestrianization of the busiest shopping street in Britain can hardly be considered an environmental success, but why should so many people need to go there at all, to be herded together in conditions that are barely tolerable?

It is little wonder that the new shopping developed at Brent Cross, north London, by the Hamersmith Group has proved to be such a roaring success, exceeding the expectations of even the most optimistic traders, for many of its customers are those who have been spared the need to toil up to the West End.

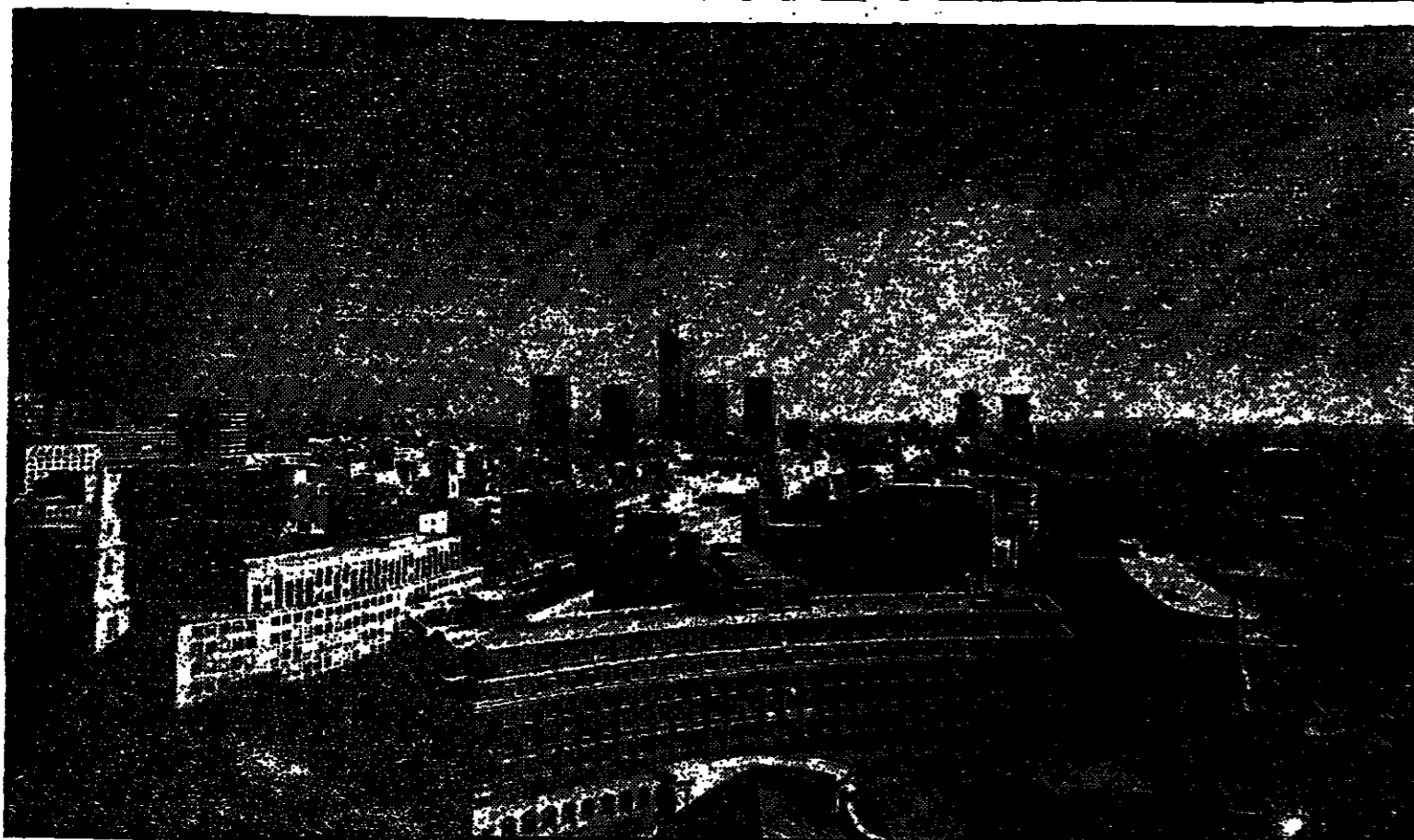
As a survey by the West End letting agents, Donaldson and Sons, has shown: Shoppers have shifted their spending from central London to Brent Cross rather than from the strategic suburban centres in north west London.

The attraction of a shopping centre like Brent Cross is a combination of such factors as accessibility, availability of parking, quality and range of shops, and comfortable shopping conditions. Could London do with more such shopping centres in the suburbs?

Clearly, the answer is that it does not need them in places that already have flourishing centres, such as Kingston, Croydon and Richmond, although there may be just as much need to improve conditions for shoppers in these areas as there is in Oxford Street.

As Healey and Baker, the West End agents with perhaps the greatest experience of shopping properties, said in a recent report: "It seems to us that, in the United Kingdom, the improvement of down-town shopping areas, either by modern shopping developments or by pedestrianization of existing streets, will and should remain the most practical solution for most centres of population."

continued on next page



Some of London's new office development seen from the dome of St Paul's

Philip Sawyer

Growing pressure to amend land Act

by Michael Hanson

In spite of repeated assurances by Conservative Party spokesmen that the Community Land Act will be repealed, some dissenting noises are beginning to be heard from the most surprising quarters.

The British Property Federation, which does not accept that it is necessary for development land to pass through municipal ownership in order to achieve positive planning, nevertheless believes it is necessary for local authorities to have improved powers of compulsory purchase in certain circumstances.

"The Community Land Act is objectionable in its

curtailment of the owner's rights of objection", the federation says in an official policy statement. "Nevertheless there should be provisions for expediting compulsory purchase when the owner of a small parcel of land required for development holds up an entire comprehensive scheme."

These powers for overriding the objections of an owner should be limited to land that comprises 10 per cent, at the most, of the area required for the whole scheme, on the analogy of the powers in the Companies Acts for minority shareholders to be bought out compulsorily.

A former president of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Mr Philip Franklin, goes even further

in his willingness to accept the Community Land Act. In his presidential address last year, he urged the Conservatives not to repeal the Act if they came to power.

"No government will ever establish a fair, workable and above all reasonably permanent land policy until it is accepted that any policy based on a high degree of political dogma will inevitably be repeated as soon as there is a change of political power", he said.

He suggested that the Act could be made to work "if it is intelligently amended and short of those provisions which were designed for the achievement of extreme political objectives rather than for any other purpose."

That is not a view that

commends itself to most people in the property world, who fill the correspondence columns of their professional magazines with complaints about the cumbersome legal procedures.

In its first year of operation, the Community Land Act made a good start, according to the Minister for Housing and Construction, Mr Reginald Ffrench, having been responsible for the acquisition of 1,571 acres of land for £12.1m, but he studiously avoided stating what the Act had cost to operate in terms of staff costs and overheads. If its predecessor, the ill-fated Land Commission Act of 1967, is any guide, the administrative costs are likely to outweigh the apparent advantages.

Most of the criticism of the Community Land Act has been superficial so far, but the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is conducting a detailed analysis of the working of the Act, with a view to identifying any practical difficulties which have arisen and suggesting changes where necessary, in keeping with the constructive approach favoured by their former president.

Not so unacceptable, however, is another worry for

the property world, development land tax. The Conservatives apparently intend to retain it, although in a substantially modified form.

According to Mr Rossi, a fine balance has to be struck between giving landowners the incentive to bring sites forward for development and taxing excessive profits realized upon the grant of planning permission.

The Conservatives have remained vague about the level of tax they would prefer to see in place of the present rate, which is 80 per cent for any company that realizes development value of more than £150,000 in a year, although anything less is being taxed at 66 2/3 per cent until 1979. The indications are that the Conservatives favour a tax of between 50 and 60 per cent, and most probably would settle on the 52 per cent figure that is now used for corporation tax.

As for the Government, it still has the power in reserve to increase development land tax to 100 per cent by the time the Community Land Act reaches what is known as the second appointed day, which is when all local authorities will be placed upon a duty to acquire all land needed for development at its existing value.

The reasoning behind this political dogma is that all increases in the value of property are the result of public action, such as by granting planning permission or carrying out improvement to roads or services.

This is not a view shared by the British Property Federation, however, which points out that it is usually the landowner or a prospective purchaser who identifies land as being suitable for a particular type of development.

It is the developer who formulates the detailed plans and assesses the feasibility of the development, and it is the developer who takes the risk that the project may or may not show a reasonable return on the capital invested. In these circumstances, the federation argues, "a fair proportion of the gain should therefore accrue also to the landowner."

The federation believes that the normal rate of corporation tax is the appropriate level at which to tax

development gains by companies, but it suggests that gains made by individuals should be taxed at the normal graduated rates of income tax, but subject to a limit that it should not be higher than the rate applicable to companies.

The federation is not alone in believing that development land tax has been responsible for the severe shortage of housing land. That is also the view of the National House Building Council and the House Builders Federation. However, it is not only housing land that is being affected but also land for commercial and industrial development, mainly because many owners have been frightened to bring it forward for development because of their fears of the Community Land Act and development land tax.

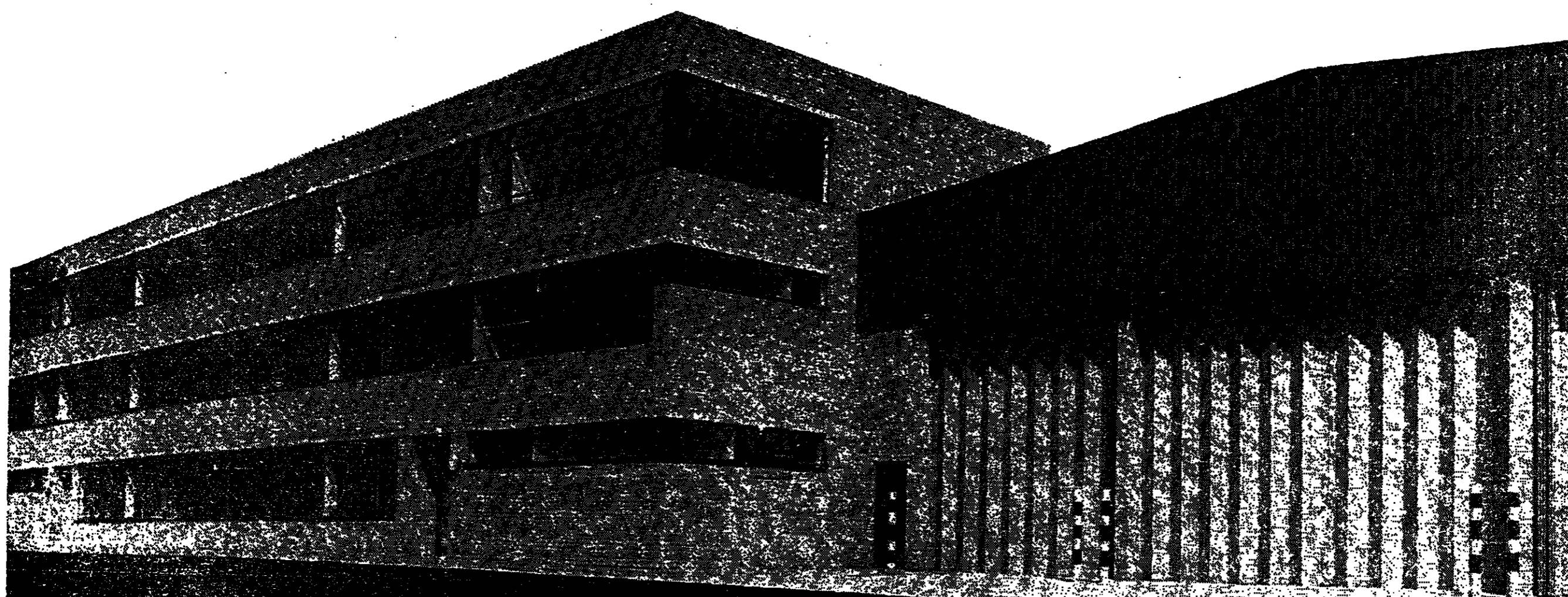
Another drawback to development land tax has been the Inland Revenue's insistence that the liability to tax arises as soon as development has begun, instead of when it has been completed and the gain has been realized. To make matters worse, the Inland Revenue is not prepared to agree to the amount of tax before development begins, which is another reason why land suitable for development is being withheld.

As a result of pressure from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and other professional bodies, the Government included an amendment to the tax in this year's Finance Act to allow institutions such as pension funds and insurance companies to finance developments by means of conventional sale and leaseback without becoming liable to pay tax of up to 80 per cent at the outset of the development.

The need for other amendments may become apparent when we have the results of the parallel detailed study of the Development Land Tax Act that is also being undertaken by the RICS.

Whatever changes may be called for in the tax, there is already growing pressure in the City to see the Community Land Act amended, if it is not repealed, to allow local authorities to grant leases of land for 125 years instead of the 99 years favoured by the Government.

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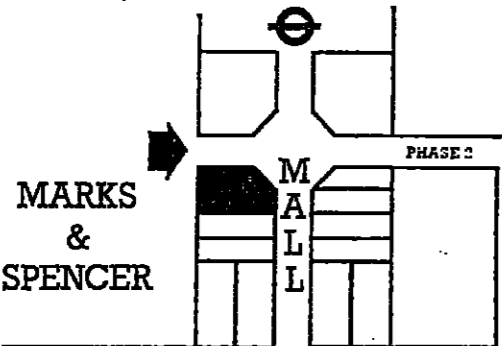
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Hindsight experts climb on bandwagon of new town critics

by John Young

There are few things more distasteful than the sight of politicians, planners, economists and sociologists jostling to climb aboard a bandwagon. It has been obvious for at least a quarter of a century that many of Britain's older urban areas were in serious economic and environmental disarray because of the combined effects of wartime bombing, insensitive redevelopment, a decaying fabric and an excessive proportion of elderly, poorly educated, unskilled and relatively impoverished inhabitants.

But there was a reluctance

to admit that the millions of pounds poured into urban renewal had been badly spent and misdirected. A scapegoat had to be found, and in due course it was provided by the new towns. It was those who had created a misplaced ideology that had drained the great cities of their life blood: the young, the skilled and the able. Why had we not seen that all along?

At the beginning of last year the Greater London Council, not a body famed for its dynamism and perspicacity, announced that it was seeking to terminate all its existing agreements to disperse overspill population into the new and expanding towns. Until then the new

towns had supposed that they were serving a good purpose. They were spoken of disparagingly, mostly by those whose closest acquaintance was through the windows of a railway carriage. Foreigners, more sensibly, came—as they still come—in droves to admire not the architecture, which is largely mediocre to abysmal, but the organization and the achievements which are, with few exceptions, remarkable.

Now that new towns are out of favour, however, what is to be their future? The Government in its wisdom—the GLC, it might be added, shows few signs of possessing any such quality—has recognized that commitments cannot be scrapped overnight.

Between them the towns

represent an investment of several thousand million pounds. Their development corporations have been assigned powers of compulsory purchase and long-term planning responsibilities which, inevitably, have had wide regional effects. In passing, it is worth remarking that three towns are already producing substantial returns to the Exchequer and, if things were left as they are, several others could be expected to be in a position to redeem their debt within the next few years.

But things are not to be left as they are. The Government has decreed that the so-called first-generation new towns should hand over their housing assets to

the appropriate local authorities by April 1 next year. That is clearly a sop to the councils which have complained over the years that the corporations have prevented them from exercising their democratic role as housing authorities.

At this point, however, there is a catch. Rented housing is not a money-making business. What has put towns such as Crawley

firmly into the black is the revenue from commercial and industrial estates, and the decree says nothing about that. Basildon, for one, is balking at the idea of taking over and servicing a 60-year debt, to say nothing of the commitment to provide an unlimited amount of further housing to meet so far unspecified future government targets.

The future of the Commission for the New Towns is also in doubt. This body was established to take over the assets of development corporations which had fulfilled their purpose. At present these comprise Crawley, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead and Welwyn Garden City and, in the near future, could have been expected to include Bracknell, Harlow and Stevenage.

The implication must be that the Government, through the commission or some other medium, intends to hold on to the profitable commercial assets, while disposing of the unprofitable housing to local authorities and at the same time obliging them to meet whatever future population targets it might decide upon.

From the council's point of view, that might seem less than a fair deal; but who ever said that Westminster and Whitehall were interested in fair deals?

However, what exercises new town advocates more than the face of Basildon is that of the second and third generation towns, particularly the latter. Rumours were circulating last year that Telford and Central Lancashire were to be scrapped, Northampton and Peterborough relegated to their former status as country towns, and the showpiece of them all, Milton Keynes, reduced to a skeleton of its ambitious self.

What the Government announced in April was that the projected eventual population for these five towns, together with Washington, would be reduced by a total of 380,000. The announcement was an admission that, with the possible exception of Central Lancashire, too much was at stake.

Milton Keynes, for example, ideally situated halfway between London and Birmingham, has assiduously wooed institutional investment in a huge regional shopping centre on the promise of some 250,000 local inhabitants by the end of the century. Indeed, in the case of urban renewal and the reclamation of derelict land, anyone who imagines that it is only city centres that need revival should visit the three towns upon which Telford is based.

Mr James O'Neill, the secretary of the New Towns Association, is "grateful to the extent that government policy has been clarified". He is still worried about the possible effect of development land tax on would-be institutional investors, and cites the decision of the Post Office pension fund to pull out of a project in Washington.

Nevertheless, he says, there has been a great improvement in morale as a result of the Government's more realistic and pragmatic attitude. We are very pleased to be looked at in a hard and businesslike fashion, rather than as a political scapegoat as we were twelve months ago."

Everything from ski boots to garden compost

"If you want to know the single thing that can contribute better than any other to the decline and fall of the gracious city, it is the out-of-town hypermarket."

So declared Sir Desmond Heap, a former president of the Law Society, in a Hamlyn lecture two years ago, adding that of all the trendy things rearing their ugly heads today the hypermarket was the ugliest.

Now Sir Desmond was able to make so categorical an assertion is not clear. The debate on the merits and disadvantages of out-of-town shopping is far from resolved; firm evidence as to its probable long-term effects is necessarily sparse and, if anything, is in its favour.

Moreover, there is confusion about terminology. The word supermarket, which Sir Desmond used interchangeably with hypermarket, is nowadays indiscriminately applied to quite small self-service grocery stores. The distinction between genuine retail outlets and wholesale cash-and-carry stores has been blurred. Perhaps deliberately. Additionally, there is the totally different concept of the regional shopping centre, of which Brent Cross in North London is the prime example.

What Sir Desmond was presumably referring to was the single multi-purpose store, of at least 50,000 sq ft, selling everything from ski boots to garden compost, and from hi-fi equipment to instant coffee. These are generally referred to as hypermarkets or superstores, although the terms are not always strictly applied.

There is little doubt that, from the customer's point of view, hypermarkets are a good thing. They provide enormous variety under one roof, goods are well displayed and competitively priced, and there is ample car parking.

They represent the most logical and efficient form of retailing yet devised, where the firms concerned can pare their costs by buying

direct from manufacturers and at the same time pass on part of the resulting savings to consumers.

Nevertheless, they have provoked widespread hostility. Environmentally they are said to constitute a wasteful use of land, particularly of green field sites on the urban fringe which should be cherished and protected. There may be some justification in the accusation, although firms such as Tesco have repeatedly said they are more than willing to develop blighted urban sites in such areas as the London docks, and have claimed that, by so doing, they will be contributing to economic revival.

Socially, hypermarkets are opposed because they require the use of a car and thus deny access to cheap shopping for those who need it most. Economically, there are fears of over-development, as has happened in parts of the United States and, to a lesser extent, in some European countries.

Related to both of the last two criticisms is the overriding objection that, they will cause the extinction of the traditional high street retailer. Inner city blight will, it is said, be intensified

by the inability of small and medium-sized shops, and even multiple and department stores, to match the lure of cut-price convenience only a few miles away.

Shopping, as we know it today, will disappear and be replaced by a Huxleyan weekly pilgrimage to a centralized cornucopia.

But there is little evidence to support such an apocalyptic view. Since Carrefour opened the first British hypermarket at Caeprhilly, in South Wales, progress has been obstructed by a sort of planning constraint to the point where there are still only a dozen or so in the country, compared with more than 400 in West Germany.

Yet recorded instances of established shopkeepers claiming that their business has been harmed are negligible.

The trouble is that nobody really knows. Despite the proliferation of hypermarkets in West Germany, it is claimed that they still account for less than 10 per cent of total retail sales.

A report published last year by the Department of the Environment, on the other hand, found no evidence of a

threat to smaller shops. But a report of that kind is unsatisfactory.

What is needed is independent detailed research into the whole business of retailing. As long ago as 1970, the National Economic Development Office drew attention to the lack of such research. Yet, as Mr Ian MacLaurin, the managing director of Tesco, pointed out in the magazine, *Built Environment*, nothing has been done since.

Despite the lack of evidence and despite the conclusions of its own limited survey, the Department of the Environment has clearly concluded that hypermarkets should be handled carefully.

It is true that in a draft policy note last year it observed: "It is not the function of land use planning to prevent competition between retailers or between methods of retailing, nor to preserve existing commercial interests."

It is also true that it has since raised the question of applications for planning permission for sites of 50,000 sq ft to 100,000 sq ft. But applicants have complained that long delays in determining applications have made it impossible to cost schemes accurately.

Pressed to speed the process, the Government rejected earlier proposals for a state of referrals, and then rejected a joint project by British Home Stores and Associated Dairies (Asda), on the outskirts of Colchester, which had been regarded as a test case.

There is some reason to suppose that government attitudes are conditioned by the bipartisan commitment to inner city revival and a wish to be seen to support those local authorities which have invested heavily in central shopping precincts and are relying on substantial rate returns. That, however, begs the question of whether given traffic and other restrictions, city centres are the right place to which shoppers should be directed.

J. Y.

Business ratepayers lick their wounds

by Christopher Warman

Most of the protesters at the sharp rise in rates three years ago were householders but commercial and industrial ratepayers were also licking their wounds.

It is always argued that businesses can offset their rates against tax, and that anyway they can pass on the cost to the customer in increased prices. That is too simple an answer, and the number of businesses which either moved away from highly rated areas or went out of business confirmed the harshness of the rate increases of 1974-75 on commerce and industry.

There are, nevertheless, fewer calls for the abolition of the rates among non-domestic ratepayers. In general they favour its retention, realizing that any alternative might be worse.

What they do want, however, is a fair distribution of rates between domestic and non-domestic payers, and in the last decade the gap has been widening in favour of the householder.

That is partly because of the special relief the Government gives to domestic ratepayers, amounting to 18.5p in England and 36p in Wales.

In 1960 householders contributed half to council rate receipts, but that proportion has decreased steadily to 41 per cent in 1970 and 38 per cent in 1975, leaving industry and commerce to pay the remaining 62 per cent.

As a proportion of personal disposable income, rates have remained remarkably steady for domestic ratepayers, from 2 per cent in 1960, rising to 2.4 per cent in 1965, and down to 2 per cent again in 1975.

By contrast, non-domestic rates as a proportion of gross trading profits have increased from 9.5 per cent in 1960 to 13.8 per cent in 1975. Those figures help to explain the reasons for the criticism of business of the way in which rating has done them down, and the sense that they should not be required to shoulder any more of the burden.

The Layfield report on local government finance and the Government's response to it have left industry and commerce largely unaffected. The rates remain, and while capital valuation is to be introduced for domestic property, the rental value is to continue for non-domestic premises.

The point about the relative rate burden appears to have been taken. In evidence to the Layfield Committee, the Labour Party, which had always favoured the shifting of the incidence of rates, said it had gone far enough. They believed domestic rate relief should not be increased because of "the essential need for the localisation of the impact of any local authority tax"; in other words that a local rate should fall largely on local residents.

Domestic relief was unchanged this year, so the non-domestic rate proportion was reduced slightly.

In one respect, industry and commerce have benefited from the Layfield inquiry. The Government accepted their recommendation that the right to pay rates by instalments should be extended beyond householders to all ratepayers. That will be of particular value to small businesses who find difficulty in paying the money in one or two large lumps. Legislation will give all ratepayers the statu-

tory right to pay in instalments, but local authorities at their discretion can now make their own arrangements.

Industry and commerce have the one great advantage that they can set the whole of their rates against tax, corporation tax or income tax. That specific relief, one of the reasons behind the introduction of domestic rate relief in 1967.

Two other burdens which industry and commerce carry from time to time are empty rates and the penal surcharge.

The rating of empty property is a discretionary power of rating authorities. They can levy a rate on industrial, commercial or even domestic property after it has been unoccupied for three months, or six months for a newly-erected building.

The flexible powers allow an authority to levy full rates or part rates, and different rates on different classes of property. That flexibility, introduced in 1974, has led to an increasing number of authorities which impose a levy.

Now more than half the rating authorities are estimated to use the power, the purpose of which is to bring property into occupation quickly.

In some cases an owner cannot let or sell empty property because there is either only a limited market or none at all. It would be a hard local authority who imposed an unoccupied rate in such circumstances.

The penal rating surcharge is a mandatory power introduced in 1974 to catch commercial property not being used for the purpose for which it was constructed or adapted unless the owner had tried his best to let the premises.

It was brought in to "en-

courage" the speculative owners of buildings such as Centre Point, in Central London, to let them more quickly, and it comes into operation after six months of emptiness at 100 per cent of the rate they would normally pay, rising by 100 per cent each year.

It is not expected to be a popular measure, but it is not even conspicuously successful. The exemptions from the surcharge are such that it is rendered almost valueless.

An owner has to prove he has been trying to let the premises to secure exemption, and Centre Point, for example, avoided payment as a result.

There are other objections to it. The Barings and Valuation Association is bitterly opposed to the surcharge because it is levied not for the purpose of local rates, but as a punishment for Government policy. The discretionary empty rating can make a contribution to local funds, and is therefore considered a justifiable tax.

Those who have had to pay it may feel a very poor look at the Greater London Council, which itself has paid empty rating surcharges of £25,696 in the past three years on nine commercial properties. The Conservative administration quickly pointed out that that was incurred during Labour control, and gave an assurance that it would not happen in the future.

Industry and commerce have some to accept that they have to provide a large slice of locally raised revenue. What they would like in return is some form of representation on councils to acknowledge their contribution. They have been pressing for that for some time, so far in vain, but it remains a firm target for future negotiation.

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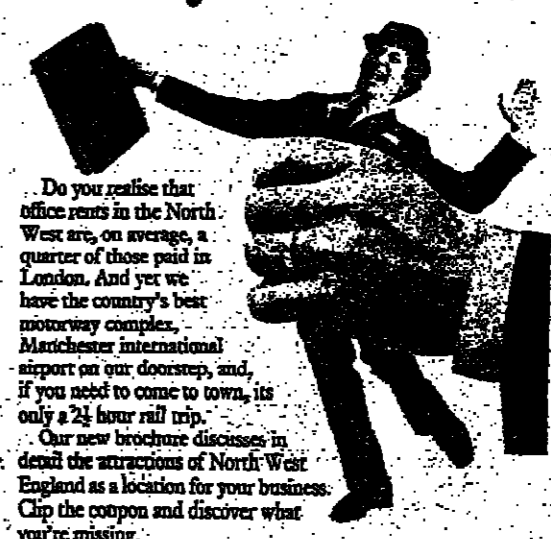
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Partnerships can revive the inner city

by Michael Hanson

Long before the Community Land Act came into force, local authorities were partnering property developers in redevelopment schemes that have made economic and environmental sense.

What is needed now is a partnership that will employ the skills and funds of private enterprise in ways that are most likely to bring about the renewal of the worn-out areas of our towns and cities.

As Reginald Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction, told the National Housing and Town Planning Council's annual conference last month: "The positive influence that local authorities can apply through the communal ownership of land on the planning and development of their areas is going to be a key factor in regenerating our older urban areas."

Unfortunately, the public ownership of land is not enough without a positive attitude towards development. Experience shows that those local authorities with a traditional antipathy to private development, especially commercial development, are all too often the ones with the greatest

amount of property in need of redevelopment, much of it derelict.

Yet a positive attitude to development is nothing new to some local authorities. The Corporation of London, which has owned much of the land in the City for centuries, was described as "perhaps the most notable example of local authority ownership of land which has been used extensively for commercial development" by the Secretary of State for the Environment's advisory group on commercial property development two years ago.

That committee also pointed out that many local authorities have had a tradition of land since the middle of the last century, with the result that they are now substantial landowners in their areas. Others, such as Coventry, Plymouth and Exeter, took the opportunity provided by extensive war damage to acquire large areas of land in their city centres, in order to plan the subsequent redevelopment comprehensively.

Traditionally, land was made available for development on building leases, which were anything from 50 to 99 years, at the end of which the land and the buildings on it reverted to the original landowners.

which the great private estates of the Duke of Westminster, the Duke of Bedford, Lord Portman and others were developed, and it was also the way many of the office buildings in the City were developed.

The development of Belgrave and Plunkett by the Grosvenor Estate on a leasehold basis from 1826 onwards showed how the most unpromising, marshy land could be transformed into desirable urban areas. Faced with the need to redevelop 5,000 acres of equally unpromising land in the London docklands, the local authorities have so far given little indication of being able to achieve the same transformation.

More recently, the Grosvenor Estate, through its commercial development company, has partnered local authorities in the development of shopping centres at Runcorn, Macclesfield, Northampton and Lewisham, and it has just started work on its latest joint venture, an £8m shopping precinct at Staines, in partnership with the Spelthorne District Council.

Road improvements have often been the key to successful commercial development, as when the old London County Council cut Kingsway and Aldwych through the slums between

Clare Market and Drury Lane to create a new traffic route between the Strand and Holborn. The new road was opened by Edward VII in 1905, but it was some years before all the buildings on each side were developed, proving once again that public ownership of the land is not enough to guarantee commercial success.

In Birmingham, the cutting of Corporation Street through the insanitary slums in the centre of the city was the result of the vision of the mayor, Joseph Chamberlain, who later became president of the Board of Trade under Gladstone. Begun in 1875, it was not completed until 1904, and many of the buildings were not taken up before 1914, but the first section between New Street and Bull Street rapidly established itself as the main shopping street, and when the 75-year leases began to run out in the 1950s, the city benefited from the reversions and the opportunity to redevelop comprehensively.

For local authorities, prepared to wait up to 99 years for their reversions, the building-lease system proved quite satisfactory, but this was no longer the case when the council began to take its toll. During the recent boom, the Greater London Council, faced with

the prospect of being unable to increase its ground rents in Kingsway and Aldwych until the end of the century, was persuaded to sell many of its freehold reversions to the leaseholders, which attracted some criticism.

Other criticism during the boom was directed at proposed schemes of major redevelopment in the centres of towns and cities that did not always seem to need it, such as Chesterfield and Carlisle. Such criticism is nothing new. In 1963, Sir Keith Joseph, as Minister of Housing and Local Government, expressed concern about the quality of redevelopment in some city centres.

Design apart, the breakthrough in partnership redevelopment schemes came when local authorities began to share in rising rents. The first scheme where the rent that the council received was linked to the commercial success of the redevelopment was at Blackburn, where the first phase of the redevelopment of the town centre was begun by Leasing Development in April, 1965, and completed in October, 1967. This first phase, covering five acres, included a department store, three supermarkets, 50 shops, an entertainment centre, parking for 544 cars, and a 15-storey block of offices forming

an extension to the Victorian town hall.

A second phase followed, adding another three stores, a supermarket, 28 shops, a restaurant and parking for 714 cars. Both phases let readily, and work is now about to start on the third phase, which will include another department store.

Redevelopment of this quality is a planning gain in itself but during the property boom some local authorities got increasingly greedy about the additional "gains" they wanted the developer to provide in return for planning permission for commercial development. Where the demands were reasonable, the developers were happy to accommodate them, but in some cases they became so exorbitant that redevelopment schemes were abandoned.

Large areas of the inner city became sterilized in this way, notably in Southwark. It is a sign of the times that Southwark has just announced a £3m fund "for the development of industry and commerce" in the borough. Two years ago, the late Anthony Crosland's advisory group warned of the "possibility that the local authority's responsibility to achieve positive planning will dominate in such a way that the chances of carrying out viable commercial development are prejudiced".

British Rail sheds surplus land

by John Young

A few years ago a Sunday newspaper asked British Rail how much land it owned. Officials scratched their heads and replied that they did not really know, that they had never been asked before, but that they would try to find out.

Eventually a broad calculation was made, based on the number of miles of track, stations, marshalling yards and so on, and the conclusion was reached that, give or take a few thousand acres, the figure was probably about 250,000.

The railways were subsequently classed, along with such bodies as the Forestry Commission, the National Coal Board and the Crown Commissioners, as among the half dozen largest landowners in Britain.

Looking out from a train window it is easy enough to conclude that much of that land is ill-used or wasted. Environmental and social pressure groups regularly cite such alleged misuse as a prime case for government or local authority intervention.

Mr Robert Dashwood, managing director of British Railways Property Board, not surprisingly disagrees. In the past 15 years, he points out, some 70,000 acres of surplus land have been sold for a total of about £20m.

Those sales have comprised surplus branch lines and their accoutrements; housing and land designated by local authorities for that purpose and also for roads and other public works; as much land as possible which was considered to be a wasting asset and for which no obvious use was envisaged; and some sites which were particularly attractive to developers and for which particularly tempting offers were made.

Mr Dashwood estimates that between 75 and 80 per cent of the railways' remaining landholdings are operationally fully used. That leaves up to 50,000 acres which, for the present, serve no purpose.

At least half of those holdings consist of closed

branch lines which, by their nature, are the most difficult to dispose of. In the past they have been acquired by railway preservation societies, which have successfully capitalized on public nostalgia; by local authorities which have converted them to bridlepaths, public footpaths and other recreational amenities; and by farmers who have been able to incorporate them in adjoining holdings.

The drawback is that, in many cases, the land has been left with relics such as steep embankments, cuttings, tunnels and viaducts, for which it retains a statutory, and frequently expensive, liability.

Apart from branch lines the board has been saddled with a number of sites affected by planning blight, or on which local authorities have reached no decision, and a few for which there are simply no takers. Additionally, some sites have been reserved for possible future operational use, such as rail/rail interchange terminals if and when freight business is permitted to expand.

Mr Dashwood complains, with some justification, that it is the unused land that attracts attention. On the positive side, he estimated that gross revenues from the letting of non-operational land will this year exceed £10m. Rental revenue from operational land, comprising everything from station bookstalls to offices built above main line terminals, will amount to some £20m.

He agrees that British Rail was probably slow to foresee the property boom of the 1960s and early 1970s, and that the immense potential of redeveloping stations in town and city centres was underestimated. But he also blames the inconsistency of government policies and the reluctance of local authorities to grant planning permission.

The classic example was Euston in London, where the then London County Council adamantly rejected proposals to build offices over the rebuilt station. The stated reason was that the area was unsuited to commercial development, even though a number of big new office blocks were under way or planned.

Permission has since been granted for offices on the site between the station and Euston Road, which are now nearing completion. The fact that the first roof of the station remains undamaged, while the potentially green and leafy square in front of it has been sacrificed, is a melancholy comment on planners' lack of vision.

It should, of course, have been obvious from the start that the redevelopment of central urban stations made every sort of planning sense. Large-scale office accommodation could be provided without land loss, it would be convenient for commuters and reduce the pressure on London Transport, and finally, hard-pressed British Rail would make a handsome profit.

In his history of the 1960s property boom, Mr Oliver Marston claims that British Rail acted in an unbusinesslike way and demanded excessive prices or rentals. Be that as it may, some developments slipped through the net, notably Cannon Street.

The 1968 Transport Act required British Rail, for the first time, to act as a commercial entrepreneur, but the board still remained restricted in its ability to raise finance. "There was, and still is, a feeling", Mr Dashwood says, "that our business is to run railways, and that we should leave the property and of it to developers."

"We have argued on many occasions that we would like to have full commercial freedom to run our property business. But, on the other hand, we understand the need for controls on public expenditure and that funds allocated for property development would be at the expense of the railways generally."

The answer, as he sees it, is to involve institutional funds. That has already happened in the case of the Blackfriars redevelopment, which has been financed jointly by King's College, Cambridge, and at Euston where the new development has been funded, on a lease-back arrangement, by the Norwich Union and ICI pension funds.

The economic recession has precluded, for the time being, ambitious schemes for



The redeveloped Blackfriars Station, London, which will soon be completed.

Victoria and Waterloo, which multi-purpose rail/bus/air Station was recently the subject of a lengthy public inquiry, at which the main opposition came from conservationists.

The proposed redevelopment of the Liverpool Street Station, which is being undertaken by the Greater London Council, is also a subject of controversy. The author is Planning Reporter, The Times.

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MR CARTER'S OIL PLATFORM

"I remember in this room last May," said President Carter at a recent press conference, "someone asked me if my Administration was all style and no substance. Lately the criticisms have been that there is too much substance and not enough style." Poor Mr. Carter. Once the knives start being drawn on an American President there is no fairness. He is suffering from a reaction, which frequently sets in when the enthusiastic initiatives of a new Administration come up against the realities of American politics. He has generated a lot of new legislation and it has been too much for Congress. Some of it is now being postponed, and the volatile opinion polls have been recording a less favourable verdict on his performance.

The verdict is only partly justified and need not be taken anywhere near seriously enough to justify the doom-laden prophecies in which some American commentators have indulged. President Carter has had a lot to learn in office. He and his young men from Georgia have handled relations with Congress badly, and he may have made matters worse by deciding to appeal over the head of Congress to public opinion. If he had won his election by a landslide vote this might have worked because Congressmen would need his support more than he needs theirs, but the reverse is true. He ran behind most congressional members of his own party and they have yet to be persuaded that he has overtaken them. He needs their support. He cannot rely on automatic party loyalty or on the old coalitions on which his party used to rest. American politics has become more fluid and Congress has become more assertive. He can win support only by persuasion and he is only now

beginning to learn what this means. He got most of his energy Bill through the House of Representatives helped by the loyalty of Mr. Tip O'Neill, the Speaker, whom he had earlier treated very casually, and who fortunately happens to come from an oil-consuming state, Massachusetts. Amazingly enough he thought he could get the Bill through the Senate without taking any special notice of Senator Russell Long, the powerful chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, who comes from Louisiana, an oil-producing state, more interested in increasing production than cutting consumption. The President also thought he could out-gun the oil lobbies by denouncing their allegedly excessive profits with figures which could easily be challenged. The result was disaster in the Senate.

His address to the nation on Tuesday showed him in a more careful mood but rightly as determined as ever to persuade people of the urgency of the energy Bill. It is indeed of the highest national and international importance. The world simply cannot afford the stresses that will come if the United States goes on importing oil at present rates. Since 1973 almost all the developed countries have cut their oil imports but the United States has increased its by more than 40 per cent. Ten years ago the United States imported two and a half million barrels a day, or about 20 per cent of what it used. Now it imports nearly nine million barrels a day at much higher prices, with consequent drain on its balance of payments. Meanwhile domestic production is decreasing. This trend cannot go on. President Carter quoted his Defence Secretary, who said recently that the present deficiency of assured energy sources is the single surest

threat . . . to our security and that of our allies."

The trouble is that any serious cut in American oil consumption comes up not only against the powerful oil companies but also against the entire American way of life, which is based on cheap and abundant energy for large cars, huge heating and cooling systems for buildings, and a generous use of energy in industry. Moreover, at this stage the problem is simply not visible to most Americans, so that the President's attempt to rally them to the moral equivalent of war finds little response. In any case they are themselves their own main enemy, which does not help either. He must therefore rely at least as much on informed political support as on less informed public support. In fact there could hardly be a more difficult issue on which to rally the people against the politicians.

But there is also another factor which the President scarcely mentioned in his original presentation of the energy plan on April 20, and which even now is only creeping rather shyly into his speeches, and that is the interest which the rest of the world must have in this issue. At first he talked almost entirely of maintaining the American standard of living. Now he mentions national security. But America's oil imports are already having a distorting influence on the market, and an international competition for oil in the next decade would have even more damaging effects, which would include war. To appeal almost solely to the material self-interest of the American people is probably to underestimate them and is anyway uncharacteristic of Mr. Carter. The stakes are higher and President Carter should make this clear. So should foreign governments.

STILL THE FISHERMEN'S FRIEND

The news that Britain's fishermen have been excluded from yet another fishing ground because of the rapacious behaviour of one of Britain's partners in the European Community comes, regrettably, as no surprise. For the fishing industry, entry into the EEC has been attended by almost entirely adverse consequences. The latest blow is that Norway has stopped British trawlers from fishing for cod off its northern coast, not because they had exceeded their own quota, but because the French had taken more than the 500 tonnes which was their quota laid down for the Community. The amounts involved are relatively small but the incident serves as yet another example of what the British fishing authorities consider to be unfair behaviour by the fishing fleets of the other members of the Community (apart from Ireland), backed by their governments. That mistrust and disappointment is shared by the British Government, which has found its fellow members stubborn and the European Commis-

sion unsympathetic. Its efforts to negotiate what are seen as reasonable and equitable terms for all have been met with obduracy and lack of understanding by all except the Irish. Mr. John Silkin has now been reported as being pleased with an agreement reached earlier this week which, he claims, establishes the principle that coastal states have the sole right to control fish conservation off their shores. It is doubtful whether he is justified in expressing such optimism. Only 500 tonnes were at stake, and the decision to allow fishermen from Normandy and Picardy to have exclusive fishing rights for herring within four miles of their home ports scarcely binds the Community to allowing Britain its much more substantial claims. Past experience suggests that neither the Commission nor Britain's seven continental partners will see the decision in the same light as Mr. Silkin. Nevertheless he was right to point to it as a factor to be taken into account in future negotiations. The British Government had been arguing for an exclu-

sive 12-mile fishing belt, and for a preferential zone of between 12 and 50 miles from Britain's coasts. Its demands are justifiable, both on the grounds of effective conservation, to ensure that fish stocks are not depleted to the extent of becoming extinct, and for the economic survival of Britain's beleaguered fishing industry. Recent action by some of the other Community fleets has shown how justified Britain's attitude is, at least on the conservation aspect. Mr. Silkin has argued Britain's case intelligently and forcefully. He has shown no signs of weakening, resolve, and seems determined that the Community's fishing policy will not be the subject of British capitulation. British public opinion is behind him. He is not being a "bad European" by continuing to press the British case strongly. On the contrary, if he were not to do so, and the existing proposals of the European Commission were to be adopted, it is possible that in a decade or so the entire EEC pool would be all but fished out. That would be to no country's benefit.

NO AMMUNITION FOR REPUBLICANS

Jubilee year must have been a disheartening time for British republicans, but Mr. William Hamilton, as alert and severe an auditor as ever, did manage on Tuesday to make the Queen look as if she had got away with a pay award distinctly in excess of the two principles. Her estimated Civil List expenditure for this calendar year, the Chancellor announced, will be 18 per cent greater than last year's. By extracting this information through a parliamentary question, Mr. Hamilton made it appear that he had uncovered a secret, though the estimate for all Civil List payments and related annuities and pensions for this financial year was made public last spring, and there has been no increase in the global sum, which is subject to the same cash limits as other government spending.

The Civil List is not a wage at all, of course, nor is it exactly an expense account. It is meaningless as a guide either to the real cost of the monarchy or to the income of the royal family. It covers some living and professional costs—newspapers but not stationery, garden parties but not state visits,

repairs to some household goods but not others. Wages and salaries account for three quarters of it. Traditionally, each monarch was allotted an annual sum by Parliament at the outset of his reign, which he could spend without further parliamentary oversight. These arrangements foundered in the inflation of the early seventies. Several times the Queen asked out her Civil List allocation out of her own pocket. Since 1975 the Civil List has been included in the annual public expenditure estimates and subject like the rest to annual scrutiny by Parliament. Its precise amount, confidentially worked out by the Royal Trustees (the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Her Majesty's Treasurer) is based on the movement of prices and civil service pay rates, as well as changes in the level of royal activity.

The Queen's extra Jubilee commitments no doubt amply account for the increases in this year's allocation, and after the exhaustive programme that she has submitted herself to there will be few who will grudge the extra expense. The royal Jubilee

celebrations have been modest by past standards. It is impossible to set an objective standard for the scale of display appropriate to modern royalty, but there would be no fun in a skimpy monarchy, and there is no sign at all of widespread public demand for one. Audience reaction is the only sure guide in such cases. But audience reaction depends to some extent on the way the accounts are presented. The new Civil List arrangements give no public information about how much of the year's money is to be spent on what. Coupled with the still greater obscurity that surrounds the Queen's untaxed private finances, this factor remains at least a potential source of public misgiving. Much information has been made available from time to time, and it suggests that the Royal household is admirably thrifty. But regular information is absent. Neither personal privacy nor the mystery that Bagehot insisted should surround the throne require, in the case of the Civil List, abandonment of the general principle that the taxpayer should be able to see where his money goes.

she published her own in 1975. Certain inconsistencies found in the English text released by the Foreign Office (and in the Harvard Text) also have been found to exist in other Soviet publications of this period, to be sure, but so also do they appear in other letters of the period which are known to be forgeries and which preceded the Zinoviev Letter. And my own conclusions and arguments in respect of the Harvard Text did not rest solely upon these inaccuracies, as I have and others may have inferred from newspaper accounts at the time. The Foreign Office files which have become open during the past five years under the 50-year rule offer much insight about the ways in which individuals acted in respect of the Letter and what they believed about it. But as for the

Electing parent governors

From Dr Eric Midwinter
Sir, A clash of heads—seven in all—claim (letter, November 7) that parents are not enthusiastic about parent-governor elections, citing ballots of five per cent in London, and this leads them to question one of the premises of the Taylor Report. Years ago, teachers used to assume that when parents failed to attend some school function, this meant that they were apathetic. Since then many teachers, thinking rather more positively than the defeatist seventies, have re-jigged the question as: what is wrong with our mode of approach and invitation that we have failed to enlist the evident interest of parents? Most of the answers relate to adjusting such approaches to the ordinary life-style of the citizenry, and, as a consequence, there have been enormous strides in home-school relations. Undoubtedly, many of these lessons have been forgotten with the advent of parent-governor elections, although one should note the many schools which, by integrating parent-governor elections within a vital and lively special scheme of parental rapport, have had voting in very high numbers in working class as well as middle class areas. There is sufficient literature and evidence of good practice in this field to prescribe training modules for each of those years. The modules, in addition to providing him with a comprehensive technical knowledge, ensure that he acquires certain skills and practical qualifications, including pump operation, heavy goods vehicle driving, special application operation (turntable ladders, etc), breathing

From Mr William J. M. Shelton, MP for Lambeth, Streatham (Conservative)
Sir, I was interested to read the letter, signed by a number of distinguished London headmasters, regarding the concern about the low attendance, well below 5 per cent, of parents at elections for parent governors, and drawing a depressing conclusion from this. Only last week I was discussing this situation with the headmaster of a South London school (not one of the signatories of the letter). He told me that 160 parents attended the election meeting which he estimated the school roll is about 1,000, so given a number of one parent families and only one parent from a family attending, this is probably above the 10 per cent mark. The election was contested, with a number of candidates for the three places. I happen to know how hard he and his staff have worked to make their PTA a success. For instance, over 800 parents, pupils and teachers went on a one-day training outing to the Isle of Wight recently, and I am sure the comparatively good attendance at the election meeting is a direct result of enthusiasm, dedication and hard work. My conclusion is that, as with so many new ventures, the involvement of parents with schools at every level can be made to be successful provided the teachers are willing. I would indeed be sorry to see the concept of parent governors criticized so early in the day, before parents have been educated properly in their new role. Yours faithfully, WILLIAM SHELTON, House of Commons.

Coeducation at Cambridge

From the Praelector of Jesus College, Cambridge
Sir, No made devotee of St Rade-gund in this College will share Mr Tyndall's apprehension (November 2) that he might regret himself in the sense he expresses. The saint aggrieved by the long exclusion of women, can be relied upon to guard the new female intake pains-takingly. In any case the chief reason for closing down the munnery was not that sex discipline could not have been tightened, but that the munn had become few while the buildings had remained ample. It would have been uneconomical to maintain the latter without putting them to new, collegiate use for which there was a growing demand in Cambridge. But history does tend to move in cycles. Before its foundation in 1436 this College had been an exclusively male one for at least 360 years. There followed the implacable ban on women which is now about to miss its quin-centenary by only a few years. How long will the munn last? It is a bit of a puzzle, for the 2496 women will have gradually overtaken the men and, with discipline lax, from long imposed a ban on them. That will be the appropriate time, rather than now as Mr Tyndall advocates, for the College to revert to its original name as it enters its second cycle of sexual metamorphosis, only to replace it again, of course, with its present name in about the middle of the twenty-ninth century. Yours sincerely, ILYA GERSHEVITCH, Jesus College, Cambridge.

Insuring art for exhibition

From Mr Denis Mahon, FBA
Sir, I should like to add a postscript to Professor Dodwell's plea (November 8) that important temporary exhibitions in leading regional museums, the security arrangements of which have been officially approved, should be relieved of insurance costs by means of government indemnities, as is already the practice with national museums. The matter of long term loans of works of art is also relevant and should not be overlooked. If such a loan is made from a private source to a national museum, as has recently occurred in my own case, a certificate of indemnity is made available. But why should regional public museums of appropriate standing be excluded from this invaluable facility? Yours faithfully, DENIS MAHON, 33 Cadogan Square, SW1.

Justifying a strike by firemen

From Mr J. Davies
Sir, It was with deep concern that I—a serving fireman—read the editorial in the November 8 edition of *The Times*, entitled "Now the firemen". Comments made in the editorial have moved myself to defend the action forced upon myself and my colleagues throughout the nation. A little over two years ago, because of the introduction of Phase One of the Government/TUC pay policies, the Interim Report of a National Joint Council Working Party, which sought to evaluate the wider involvement of firemen in fire prevention, was pigeon-holed. What the Fire Brigades Union's Executive Council has done is to equate that "generality of jobs" comparison referred to in the report with average earnings of all adult males, then standing at £78.08 per week, and added 10 per cent to take account of the agreed range of skills, responsibilities of modern firemen and the hazards they face. Applying this formula to the present level of qualified firemen's gross weekly pay of £65.70 would mean an increase of approximately £20 per week. At present, to qualify for the qualified fireman's rate of pay, a fireman must have served four years and successfully completed prescribed training modules for each of those years. The modules, in addition to providing him with a comprehensive technical knowledge, ensure that he acquires certain skills and practical qualifications, including pump operation, heavy goods vehicle driving, special application operation (turntable ladders, etc), breathing

apparatus wearing, first aid and fire prevention. He is required to undergo tests to demonstrate his proficiency in these skills.

All very clear cut. After four years, if he qualifies in all the above, a fireman is entitled to £65.70 before stoppages. But to earn this sum a fireman must be prepared to work a 48-hour week, many hours of which are unusual hours. Only a fireman can be fully aware of the conditions under which he is called to work, when working at his most effective the public are unlikely to see him because of the very nature of the dangers involved. In your leading article it is stated that the Fire Service has no "acute recruitment problems". Can you explain then why my own station is 25 per cent below establishment, and why appliances are not always fully manned? The Government has introduced much legislation over recent years dealing with fire prevention. The Fire Service has to supply men to ensure that Acts of Parliament such as the Fire Precautions Act are implemented to the full. The Fire Service has been cut to the bone over the last two years due to cutbacks in public spending—there has been no cutback in the workload but an increase.

Is it any wonder that the nation's firemen have finally had to say, "enough is enough. Conscience and public responsibility have been used as tools to suppress reasonable pay claims too often before. Yours, J. DAVIES, J. Morewood Close, Sevenoaks, Kent, November 8.

Enjoying the cuts

From Mr J. W. Saunders
Sir, I should like to protest most strongly against the correspondence which, again, during industrial strife, fill your columns with gloomy grumbles, people it seems to me who long for black-and-white confrontations, moral and ethical righteousness, and all kinds of most un-British things. We knew it would be a long hard winter, but a number of notable victories for British commonsense have already been won. I don't want to trivialize the hardships inflicted by industrial action, but have you ever visited the elderly and infirm in the blackout? The old ladies, in particular, near at you by candlelight, mischievously delighted that they are contributing their mite to taking on the power works. A lot of people are positively enjoying the cuts. It's a bit like wartime, comradeship rapidly spreading, and has led to excitement, backing through against the odds. There is a Chinese curse which reads "May it be your fate to live in interesting times". Nobody can deny this is already a most interesting winter, with more in store. It is going to be fascinating watching the Government deal with crisis after crisis. One of your correspondents criticized the British for taking things so calmly and passively. But THAT, Sir, is the greatest item of virtue. We survive, because we don't flap and we are slow to anger. We know in our right little island that conflict, of one kind or another, is inevitable and eternal and won't ever go away. We are the world's best compromise-makers, traders, bargainers, and our British skills are going to be fully exercised in the coming months. We shall win, of course, we

always do. As for the future of our democracy, and the fear a few have that we shall be driven into authoritarianism by the Right or Left, honestly, Sir, can that even begin to happen, when our British strengths (as manifest in Arthur Scargill as in Enoch Powell) are what they are?

I suspect the hysteria is short sighted. Fortunately, Mr Callaghan has an abundant supply of a great British virtue. Oddly, we don't have a name for it. We can't call it deviousness (which indicates a vice). We can't call it flexibility (because that's too like indolence). What we call it? But an acceptance that in any conflict situation neither side is black or white. We are all healthily brought up in British marriage and family situations, where of course no one member can maintain sacrosanctity. We simply transfer our family experience to politics, nothing better. Those who long for morally righteous black-and-white situations would have been behind Sir Anthony Eden or Mr Heath, not our most successful Prime Ministers. It is a little disturbing to me to see Mrs Thatcher appeals to these, and if I were her adviser, I'd want the image changed as quickly as possible. We are best off in the hands of users, Stanley Baldwin, Clement Attlee, Winston Churchill (what a mischievous surplus of this British quality he had), Harold Wilson, and their kind. I look forward to a more exciting, untheatrical, compromising, wheeler dealing and totally British winter. Yours sincerely, J. W. SAUNDERS, 17 Benton Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, November 8.

Criminal legal aid

From the Vice-Chairman of the Bar
Sir, Mr Marcel Berling's article on November 1 referred to the Lord Chief Justice's proposals in his evidence to the Royal Commission for the shortening of criminal trials, and described Lord Widgery as having "floated a suggestion for a pre-determined flat fee to counsel acting in a legal aid case, rather than a daily rate. The inevitable need for compression in reporting a lengthy sequence of evidence unfortunately led to an emphasis on counsel's position which the evidence of the judges read as a reform would require the attendance of counsel throughout a case save in exceptional circumstances should be reconsidered. The evidence said: "If their attendance is not needed then, in principle, they should not be there. Consideration is being given to the question whether it is necessary for all the (often many) counsel or solicitors or their representatives, engaged in multi-defendant criminal cases to be present in court throughout the trial." Such a reform would require the support and approval of the judges as well as of the Bar. Yours faithfully, DAVID HIRST, The Bar Council, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, WCL, November 1.

cases of modest duration to which the Lord Chief Justice's comments were not directly related. The remuneration of the legal profession as a whole in criminal legal aid cases is based on regulations originally issued in 1960 and on fee scales agreed in 1972 and not increased since despite massive inflation.

Mr Berling also referred to the Lord Chief Justice's comments that the prosecution in criminal cases tended to charge too many defendants on too many charges, and that as a result "you have defence counsel sitting around for days doing nothing because of the rights of the accused are so small that they can be actively employed for only a very small percentage of the time." As to the former point, the judge's evidence clearly suggested that the responsibility rests primarily with the prosecuting authorities. As to the latter point, the Bar Council in its evidence to the Royal Commission in June, 1977, submitted that the present rulings requiring the attendance of counsel throughout a case save in exceptional circumstances should be reconsidered. The evidence said: "If their attendance is not needed then, in principle, they should not be there. Consideration is being given to the question whether it is necessary for all the (often many) counsel or solicitors or their representatives, engaged in multi-defendant criminal cases to be present in court throughout the trial." Such a reform would require the support and approval of the judges as well as of the Bar. Yours faithfully, DAVID HIRST, The Bar Council, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, WCL, November 1.

Composers' rights

From Mr Clement Freud, MP for Isle of Ely (Liberal)
Sir, Alan Frank, chairman of the Performing Right Society, apparently agrees (November 2) with the view expressed by me and nine Parliamentary colleagues (October 29) that the Companies Act disclosure provisions are inadequate. I question, however, his assertion that there is no justification for our criticism of the PRS Council in withholding the voting list from the members. Whilst the PRS has every legal right to utilise the Courts to determine whether or not it can continue to do so, I find the reasons stated for such action to be specious

and unacceptable. Mr Frank states the appeal against the High Court order to hand over the voting list was taken on the issue of safeguarding confidentiality in respect of members' professional earnings whilst ignoring the high price of such confidentiality: the effective disenfranchisement of the voting members who, without the list, cannot communicate with each other to oppose the Council. No company board can be permitted to perpetuate itself in office in this way and, as my colleagues and I have stated, if the law so permits, then the law must be changed. Yours faithfully, CLEMENT FREUD, House of Commons, November 5.

Accounting for the monarchy

From Lady Ballantrae
Sir, Can Mr Willie Hamilton point to any other single government expenditure of £2m which gives as instant a return as does the investment in the monarchy? I would guess that more than £2m has been collected by VAT alone on the Queen's portrait. People have been kept in employment (and paid their taxes) to produce, handle and sell these goods and to meet the demands of tourists and visitors. Sales and services have been spread throughout the country. No government—even by taking 5p off income tax—has discovered how to touch the people who make a nation with the magic that came across so strongly on Jubilee Day. HM The Queen gives more than any cash columns will ever show. I am your obedient servant, LAURA BALLANTRAE, Auchinure, Ballantrae, Ayrshire, November 9.

Mapping buried history

From the President of the Prehistoric Society and others
Sir, On behalf of the societies we represent we should like to express our very deep concern and disquiet over the proposed redeployment by the Ordnance Survey of its specialised archaeological staff and resources (your article of October 24), which amounts virtually to the abrogation of all responsibility for the quality of the archaeological information which will in future appear on its maps. Not only is this action being taken unilaterally, without consulting informed archaeological opinion, but it is being preceded through in advance of the study of the Ordnance Survey's activities as a whole which is in process of being initiated by the Secretary of State for the Environment. We appreciate that in present circumstances the Ordnance Survey has to make economies, and are well aware that there has been some overlapping in certain parts of the country with other organisations engaged in recording and recording. But surely the right course now would be to thrash these matters out publicly in the forthcoming study? This precipitate action on the part of the Ordnance Survey would seem to imply an intention to eliminate the whole question before the inquiry starts. If there is any such intention we protest most strongly against it. The Ordnance Survey's coverage of archaeology is both traditional and of high respect internationally. Anything which affects it adversely is therefore a matter which must be debated fully and freely in any general consideration of its future role. Yours sincerely, J. D. EVANS, President, Prehistoric Society, A. L. F. RIVET, President, Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, DONALD HARDEN, President, Society for Medieval Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, 31-34 Gordon Square, WCL, November 8.

Sanctions on S Africa

From Professor A. R. C. de Crespigny
Sir, Mr Hatch (November 3) has misunderstood my view (November 1) in spite of its rather painstaking clarity. I did not argue that "external pressure is responsible for the South African Government's repression." What I did say was that "the effect of foreign pressure has been to strengthen the position of the National Party." And of course it is true that if whites have a right to protect or promote their vital interests, so do blacks as well. The only problem is that in current and foreseeable circumstances many of the (actual and perceived) critical interests of white and black (ie, Africans) are and will remain irreconcilable within a common political system. Discussion of South Africa's complex problems tends to degenerate into uplift in which it so often seems as if the conspicuous merit of the heart is thought to compensate for the muddles of the head. What is missing is the tragic dimension which results from irreconcilable critical interests. Not surprisingly, white South Africans are not nastier or nicer than other people; they simply live in a society where it is exceedingly difficult to practise the continuous activity of inter-group accommodation which we call "politics." Incidentally, I am not a white South African. Yours faithfully, A. R. C. DE CRESPIGNY, Professor of Political Science, University of Cape Town, 1000, from 3 Phillimore Gardens, W8, November 4.

Wykehamist reading

From the Reverend A. W. Beer
Sir, At the end of the Winchester summer term of 1816 Jane Austen wrote from Chawton to her nephew James, on the 9th July: "We saw a countless number of Postchaises full of boys pass by yesterday morning—full of future Heroes, Legislators, Fools and Villains." Judging by the results of the literary census held recently at Winchester (your report, November 8), the school is now composed entirely of the last two categories. Yours faithfully, A. W. BEER, The Presbytery, 25 Between Streets, Cobham, Surrey, November 8.

From Mr Piers Jessop
Sir, Charles Dickens's name appears four times in the list of boring books compiled by the boys of Winchester School. Is this fact not the most savage indictment imaginable of the way in which these boys have been taught? Yours faithfully, PIERS JESSOP, 40 Holland Road, W14, November 9.

The Zinoviev Letter

From Professor W. E. Butler
Sir, The recent contributions of Dr Andrews (October 28) and Miss Crowe (October 20) and others in these columns and elsewhere to unravelling the truth about the Zinoviev Letter have been most useful. But the fact remains that the Harvard Text of the Letter is still the only extant version in the Russian language so far known. The English copy released by the Foreign Office seems to have been a translation of that Russian document contained in the Harvard reproduced in the Russian text reproduced in the English publication is a translation back into Russian of the Foreign Office English language version. Miss Crowe had not seen my 1970 article on the Harvard Text when

she published her own in 1975. Certain inconsistencies found in the English text released by the Foreign Office (and in the Harvard Text) also have been found to exist in other Soviet publications of this period, to be sure, but so also do they appear in other letters of the period which are known to be forgeries and which preceded the Zinoviev Letter. And my own conclusions and arguments in respect of the Harvard Text did not rest solely upon these inaccuracies, as I have and others may have inferred from newspaper accounts at the time. The Foreign Office files which have become open during the past five years under the 50-year rule offer much insight about the ways in which individuals acted in respect of the Letter and what they believed about it. But as for the

document itself, no further evidence to my knowledge has appeared. Yours sincerely, W. E. BUTLER, Professor of Comparative Law in the University of London, Faculty of Laws, University College London, 48 Euston Road, WC1.

Doing without police
From Mr Clive Davies
Sir, The Chief Constable of Bedfordshire is right to advocate self-policing in rural areas. (Your November 4 issue). But isn't the need for community-based "do-it-yourself policing" even greater in our crime-ridden towns and cities? Yours sincerely, CLIVE DAVIES, Department of Sociology, University of Liverpool.

State to pay 6,000 idle Montefibre workers

From John Earle
Rome, Nov 9

Montefibre, the textile and fibres company and one of the heaviest loss makers in the ailing Montedison group, has gained a temporary respite with a government offer to take over wage payments for 6,000 workers the company has been seeking for weeks to make redundant.

A meeting of ministers yesterday under Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Prime Minister, decided for the first time to apply provisions of the recently passed law on industrial reconversion, making possible a new form of payments out of the Cassa Integrazione or government relief fund.

Workers will be paid to do nothing till the authorities find alternative employment for them.

They will still nominally remain with Montefibre, though the company will bear no further financial charges for them.

Under previous Cassa Integrazione arrangements, the Cassa paid about 80 per cent of wages, while the employer was still responsible for certain residual payments.

Montefibre's management expects to discuss implementation of the Government's offer at a meeting in the Budget Ministry in the near future. Meanwhile it will be able to close certain plants, notably in Piedmont and in the south of Italy, where the 6,000 are employed.

Montefibre, one of the hardest-hit companies in the world textile and fibres crisis, has a workforce of about 28,000, of whom about 26,000 are in Italy. The remainder are employed in smaller plants in France, Spain and Malta.

The company, which met strong trade union opposition to its plan for 6,000 redundancies, has been steadily losing money throughout the year, though it is believed that this year's loss may be slightly below the 1976 level of 99,500m lire (166.6m).

A few weeks ago rumours circulated that Montefibre might be put into liquidation.

There was immediate opposition to the Government's offer from the trade unions. A spokesman for the Chemical Workers' Federation said their attitude was one of "straight refusal" of a measure which merely put workers into a parking area and created a dangerous precedent for other companies to follow.

The Government's move was "the exact opposite" of the trade demands for the withdrawal of the threat of dismissals and, the spokesman said, opened the door to "tens of thousands of dismissals".

UK dilemma over Hongkong textiles

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Nov 9

British sources spoke of an extraordinary position in the breakdown of talks between the EEC and Hongkong aimed at securing an agreement limiting the Crown Colony's export of textiles to the Community.

British sources spoke of a "delicate situation" and said diplomatic efforts were being made to "cool the atmosphere" on both sides.

Technically, Britain is ultimately responsible for Hongkong's government policy, but as a member of the EEC Britain has played a dominant role in forging the tough negotiating stand adopted by the Community in its negotiations with the colony and more than 30 other textile producers.

"We are not prepared to accept the EEC's right arbitrarily to redistribute a large part of our trade to other suppliers," Mr Lawrence Mills, the colony's chief negotiator, told *The Times*. He said that Hongkong was

prepared to hold its textile exports to last year's level but would not reduce them beyond that. "This is the crunch point of the negotiations," he added.

London has been at the receiving end of serious protests from Hongkong against what are regarded as bullying tactics by the EEC negotiators. One source described the protests as containing "some of the strongest language ever seen" in a diplomatic telegram.

Hongkong is the biggest textile supplier, and negotiations with the colony thus to a large extent determine what the Community will be able to offer other smaller suppliers.

The European Commission, which negotiates on behalf of the Nine, has given a warning that unless satisfactory agree-

ments are concluded by November 30 with all the major suppliers it will be unable to approve a renewal in December of the Geneva Multi Fibre Arrangement. The EEC would instead impose unilateral import curbs.

Mr Mills said he hoped an agreement could still be reached but he felt the next step would be for him to report the facts to the Hongkong government.

He added that so far the talks had been conducted as if Britain and its colony had no constitutional link, and he insisted that there had been no attempt by Britain to apply pressures.

In a statement issued last night the Commission said its offer of an import ceiling of 138,000 tonnes remained

prepared to hold its textile exports to last year's level but would not reduce them beyond that. "This is the crunch point of the negotiations," he added.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Government inhibits worker participation

From Mr I. E. C. Grant

Sir, Your summary of the measures to be included by the Government in the present session of Parliament must, in many cases, promote hollow laughter from those directly involved with the subjects mentioned.

About seven and a half years ago I was (and remain) a partner in the instigation of a small company dedicated to worker participation and profit-sharing, and the Labour Government has been in power during this period, but has neither promoted any legislation to assist such companies, nor even thought in detail of the problems related to such things, but very obviously no attempt has ever been made, or indeed probably will be made, to create conditions under which such companies can flourish.

Firstly, forming such a company, the founders are, by its conception, prevented from selling their shareholding to merchant banks or others to realize capital profits attracting lower taxation (which would be the normal capitalist operation), and indeed in our company the shares must be sold at asset value to those workers and directors remaining in the company. No principle may make a major capital profit and retire to a country estate to prosper on his "sweated brow" of his workers.

This is a fine concept, but for many years the Labour Government would not allow pensions to be created in such a company to justify principals

giving up the capital element without such pensions becoming doubly taxed. Only in recent years has the pension limit on taxation been increased marginally.

Secondly, in spite of the concept of the company, no untaxed or reduced tax reserves can be built up easily as a safeguard for employees in their future employment with the company without the Inland Revenue either insisting on distribution as a dividend to shareholders (who are the workers), as highly-taxed "unearned" income, or to put reserves, after corporation tax, which is paid out at a later date as salaries, would result in such a diminution of income as to be ridiculous.

I am not a tax expert, and I may be wrong in minor parts of these comments, but in general a Labour Government has not only done nothing to help worker participation companies, or even to start to assist them, it has deliberately instigated a taxation policy that causes great difficulties for such an enterprise to function fairly and without hardship or strain.

Electioneering is one thing, but electioneering based on guilting assistance is given when it has not been, and where the past record is totally obstructive, gets so close to deception as to be intolerable.

Yours faithfully,
I. E. C. GRANT,
Manor Cottage,
Bookham Common,
Bookham,
Surrey,
November 4.

Currency premium surrender 'irrelevant'

From Mr D. F. McCurrach

Sir, In comment on the Chancellor's recent measures, the currency premium surrender is repeatedly coupled with exchange restriction (see in particular your correspondence David Blake and Caroline Atkinson quoting Treasury, and Bank of England officials views in this sense, *The Times* November 2, 1977) as if it were a form of exchange control and a restraint on the export of capital.

It is neither. It is an arbitrary tax on transactions wholly within a closed pool of British owned foreign assets and between British residents, transactions which can, by exchange regulation, involve no net purchase of foreign currency.

It has no more effect in restraining the movement of capital out of the country than would a tax on U.K. transactions in the shares of international companies quoted and traded in sterling, indeed less since the latter may be acquired from a foreign resident.

And, as a tax on turnover, it does no more than inhibit competent management of a substantial national pool of overseas assets.

It is important that those who are opposed to the political or economic policy grounds, to the export of capital should understand that the currency premium surrender is no part of the armoury and is an irrelevance.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID F. MCCURRACH,
Chairman,
The Alliance Trust Company,
Limited,
Meadow House,
64 Reform Street,
Dundee, DD1 1TJ.

Keeping one's cool over coal

From Dr O. Caiger-Smith

Sir, The anthracite for my heating has gone up in price from £26 to £67 in the past four years.

In the event of the Coal Board (strike or no) being unable to sell their anthracite at less than, say, £100 a ton and of me being unable to pay more than, say, £80 what do we both do?

Does the Coal Board keep its coal and I my coal? Yours sincerely,
OLIVER CAIGER-SMITH,
Beenhams Stocks,
Reading, RG7 5NA.

Mullard 'not ready' for Hitachi deal

By Derek Harris

Mullard, Britain's sole remaining colour television tube manufacturer, is not yet ready to accept an Hitachi offer to buy 25,000 of its tubes a year from 1980.

This was made clear last night by Mr Jack Akerman, Mullard's managing director, who said that a "significant programme" of technical work still remained to be completed before the company was ready to accept the offer. Mullard's tubes with the chassis of Hitachi sets. Mullard is at the centre of a controversy over the Japanese company's proposed factory in the North-east.

Hitachi representatives told a meeting of Labour MPs from the North-east earlier this week that technical studies had been completed by Hitachi and a formal offer to buy Mullard tubes had been made.

Mr Akerman said last night: "For our part we must be absolutely satisfied that our merchandise is going to be used in a technical environment where it will perform well and live well."

If all the technical points are answered and we are satisfied, then it would be acceptable for Mullard and Hitachi to trade together in the event that Hitachi's new factory were welcomed to this country by the Government."

He emphasized that with Mullard's 2.5million tubes-a-year capacity under-used at present, any new customer would be welcome, but the question had to be asked how many of the sales would be at the expense of Mullard's present customers.

Mullard, which at present produces only the more compact 110 degree tubes in Britain, is tooling up for a restricted production run of 90 degree 20-inch tubes, Mr Akerman disclosed.

Production would start in July and would peak at about 500,000 tubes a year.

Government finances aided by big debt repayments

Continued from page one

of the factors which might have blown the forecasts off course have tended to work in the opposite direction.

Growth has been slower and expected, whilst retail sales have been sluggish, the only explanation available would seem to be that the equations used to predict how much tax revenue would flow in were just wrong. The error on the spending side is less important. Consolidated Fund expenditure, which is about 90 per cent of the total, has only been 9 per cent above last year's level compared to a forecast of 10 per cent in the Budget.

In evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Monday Treasury officials estimated that underspending accounts for £250m of the £2,000m revision downwards in total borrowing need whilst higher revenue accounts for £1,750m.

One major bonus for the Government's finances in the past seven months is that nationalized industries have been repaying debt very heavily which is a reflection of their relative prosperity.

The two biggest repayers out of the £57m net which has flowed back have been the national oil account, which repaid £340m as a result of the British National Oil Corporation's large loan from overseas and the Gas Corporation which repaid £28m.

Loans to local authority are well above their level of last year, on the other hand, because the Treasury now pursues a policy of phasing their borrowing carefully throughout the year. Local authorities borrowed £214m in October as a new tranche of loan money became available.

The overall picture to emerge from the latest figures is that the fiscal stance of Government has been very high indeed during the first seven months of this financial year.

BUDGET DEFICIT (£ million)

Financial Year	Actual	Forecast	Deficit	Central Government	Local Authorities	Other
1976-77	2,381	2,322	-459	5,087	983	5,984
1977-78	2,708	6,630	-3,922	8,923	865	5,984
1977-78	940	5,984	-5,044	5,984	865	5,984
1978-79	820	881	-61	1,414	287	1,414
1979-80	443	1,976	-1,533	2,204	215	2,204
1980-81	214	1,709	-1,495	1,513	170	1,513
1977-78	215	368	-153	11	572	11
1978-79	594	1,058	-464	1,720	432	1,720
1979-80	258	737	-479	873	210	873
1980-81	87	832	-745	848	84	848
1981-82	50	821	-771	873	40	873
1982-83	41	1,406	-1,365	1,244	180	1,244
1983-84	118	1,406	-1,288	1,192	180	1,192
1984-85	500	125	-375	438	187	438
1985-86	182	975	-793	1,228	187	1,228
1986-87	84	450	-366	50	50	50
1987-88	35	720	-685	194	50	194
1988-89	178	393	-215	50	50	50

Nationalized board members' pay study

By Malcolm Brown

A meeting of the executive committee of the Association of Members of State Industries Boards decided that it would keep in close liaison with the Institution, which has already decided, on the basis of its legal advice, to take action.

Over the next three weeks members of the association will be considering whether there is sufficiently close identity between state board members and top civil servants for the two groups to collaborate on legal moves.

Appointments Vacant also on page 26

Pilots HS125

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The Nation's Manpower Services

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Applicants should write to Miss Jane Hopkinson in the Personnel Department, at CBI, 21 Titchell Street, London SW1H 9LP, or telephone 01-930 6711 ext 5.

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Cross committee calls for tribunals to hear claims of accounting incompetence

By Nicholas Hirst

Accountants should set up tribunals to hear claims of incompetence affecting the public interest. This is the main recommendation of a committee set up by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and the Association of Certified Accountants (ACA).

The committee, which was set up in 1976, has recommended that the ICAC should be given powers to deal with cases of professional incompetence, which could include poor workmanship.

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report decided there was no need to extend the present disciplinary powers in private cases.

In cases of public interest, while the institutions had powers to set over a member who had committed misconduct, Cross considered that this meant "bad behaviour" such as dishonesty which only in extreme cases could include poor workmanship.

The institutions had no express provision in their constitutions to deal with cases of professional incompetence, which nevertheless could have resulted in great loss.

He therefore proposed that there should be tribunals set up to examine such cases, which would normally arise from Department of Trade or similar reports.

recommended that it should be possible to set up tribunals to deal with cases of professional incompetence, which could include poor workmanship.

But if the tribunals found that had workmanship only had been established "it should ensure the member in terms appropriate to the degree of the shortcoming established".

However, the Cross report sees a number of problems in setting up such tribunals including the difficulty of finding finance for the costly investigations which would be necessary to follow Department of Trade reports, and because at present the institutions do not have the power to call for witnesses outside the profession.

It might be that powers could be given if an investigation could be brought within the Arbitration Act, but Lord Cross said at a press conference yesterday that he was far from certain that this could be done.

Travel agents see likelihood of price war next year when resale agreement ends

From Patricia Tisdall, London, Nov 9

A price war between Britain's 4,000 travel agents could break out next year following the abandonment of resale price maintenance. Widespread discounting by tour operators followed by British Airways followed the dropping of a similar restriction this year.

Delegates at the final session of the Association of British Travel Agents' annual convention in London today were told about the likelihood of similar practices spreading to the retail trade as well as a range of special incentives from touring stamps to free transportation to airports.

ABTA, which is strongly opposed to discretionary competition among rules restricting prices and commission levels from April 1 after discussions with the Office of Fair Trading and government officials.

It is still hoping that excessive discounting will be curbed through trading agreements drawn up individually between tour operators and agents. But it became clear at the conference that such agreements would not be comprehensive.

So far only Horizon Midland and Cosmos have undertaken to maintain the same price in an agency to sell at a different price. Even if the others follow the form of contract suggested by ABTA this would not restrict excessive activity carried out by the travel agents.

Dropping of the price maintenance clause from the association's code of practice is one of 16 agreements now abandoned as a result of the new restrictive practices legislation. In return the Office of Fair Trading has undertaken to allow at least a year before it refers the clearing company to the courts.

to its future existence—to the Restrictive Practices Court.

ABTA is using the respite to strengthen its case for retaining this clause, which restricts non-members from selling holidays.

Conflicting views about next year's holiday sales prospects are being taken by the tour operators. Cosmos, which announced its programme for 1978 yesterday, is expecting to carry only about the same number of people on inclusive air holidays as this year. Cosmos is looking for a slight increase in its coach tour division.

Gold price jumps \$2 to reach two-year peak

By Caroline Atkinson

Gold closed \$2 higher at \$167.875 an ounce in London last night, its highest closing level for over two years.

The price jumped up again, despite some profit-taking, as investor interest continues to be strong and commercial demand has held up worldwide the recent price increase.

As the gold price has climbed steadily in the past few months, more speculators and investors have been attracted into the market, in particular from New York.

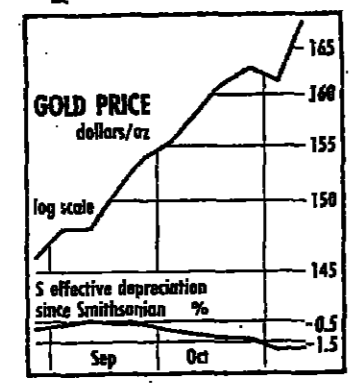
Dealers generally expect the rise to continue, although profit-taking should ensure that it is not excessive.

The dollar had a better day on the foreign exchange market yesterday, largely as a result of the statement by Dr Arthur Burns, chairman, Federal Reserve Board, that the Fed had decided to lower the targets for M2 and M3 money growth.

He also said that the Government expected a strong dollar. The dollar closed up 35 points in Germany at DM2.26 and recovered from 246.7 yen to 247.10.

The pound had a mixed day, largely following the movements of the dollar after a sharp fall in the morning.

This came as most dealers



Ferranti raises £25m loan with Chase group

By Christopher Wilkins

Three years after being rescued by the government, Ferranti has arranged loan facilities totalling £25m from a banking consortium which will enable it to repay government loans and its outstanding overdraft.

Progressive recovery of Ferranti's fortunes since 1974 is reflected in the loan arrangement. The government injected £15m into the electrical and electronics group in return for a 62½ per cent equity stake and 50 per cent of the voting rights. In the year to last March Ferranti made a £6.1m profit on sales of £125m.

The loan will take the form of two facilities, one of £18m from a consortium led by Chase Manhattan Limited, the Chase group's merchant banking arm, and the other of £7m from Chase Manhattan Bank itself.

Final maturity of the loans will be seven years and interest will be at an undisclosed margin over interbank rates.

Proceeds will repay the loan of £6.33m made to Ferranti by the National Enterprise Board in 1974, but will not affect the government's equity holding. It will also pay off Ferranti's overdraft, which was put at £9.5m in March. The remainder will be available for future working capital requirements.

How the markets moved

Rises	
Arcano Bldg	8p to 33p
Anglo Am Corp	1p to 26½p
Bishops Stores	13p to 22½p
Electrocomp	12p to 31½p
Falls	
Ascan Trading	15p to 30½p
Beecham	12p to 62½p
De La Rue	10p to 50½p
Fisons	12p to 38½p
Glen Acc	12p to 14½p
Harold	12p to 55½p
Guardian Royal	3p to 23½p
Lucas	10p to 27½p
Morgan-Grupe	15p to 15½p
Plessey	3p to 10½p

THE POUND	
Australia \$	1.65
Austria Sch	30.75
Belgium Fr	66.50
Canada \$	2.06
Denmark Kr	11.40
Finland Mk	7.75
France Fr	9.06
Germany Dm	4.28
Greece Dr	76.00
Hong Kong \$	8.85
Italy L	1625.00
Japan Yn	470.00
Netherlands Gld	4.60
Norway Kr	10.26
Portugal Esc	77.50
S Africa Rd	1.75
Spain Pes	156.75
Sweden Kr	8.98
Switzerland Fr	4.20
US \$	1.86
Yugoslavia Dnr	35.50

The Times index: 203.89-1.45

The FT index: 482.3-9.9

Futures fell back.

Oil-edged securities were mixed. Oilier premium 95.12 per cent (effective rate 35.83 per cent). Sterling lost 195 pts to \$1.8090. The effective exchange rate index was at 65.6.

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Fed to tighten money policy further

From Frank Vogl, Washington, Nov 9

The American Federal Reserve Board has decided to tighten its monetary policies still further. The decision reflects the Fed's continuing concern about the trend of United States inflation and about the recent weakening of the dollar in the foreign exchange markets.

Dr Arthur Burns, Fed chairman, said today that he expected the economic expansion to persist with possibly a 4.5 per cent real rate of economic growth in the coming year, but that in this period inflation was likely to rise again by 6 to 6.5 per cent. Firm monetary policies were, therefore, necessary.

He told the Senate's Banking Committee that the weakening of the dollar was adding to the nation's inflation problems and it could also cause "serious international difficulties". He concluded: "We are not, therefore, be complacent about the current depreciating tendencies of the dollar."

Dr Burns said the Fed had decided to leave its growth target range for M1 unchanged at 4 to 6.5 per cent for the year ahead, but it would lower both the ceiling and base limits of its ranges for M2 and M3 by one half of a percentage

point to 6.5 to 9 per cent for M2 and to 8 to 10.5 per cent for M3.

Dr Burns stressed that "a crucial consideration in lowering the long-term ranges for the broader aggregates was the committee's (the Fed's open market committee) wish to reaffirm its intent of gradually bringing down the growth of the monetary aggregates to rates compatible with reasonable price stability."

Under questioning from Senator Adlai Stevenson of Illinois, Dr Burns stated: "I feel some sort of incomes policy will have to be developed in this country." He said he did not want to elaborate on this at this time in view of the great number of uncertainties now facing businessmen and the prospect that discussion of incomes policies will only add to these uncertainties.

However, after being pressed by the senator, Dr Burns said the Federal Government should give a lead by setting lower wage rates for its personnel. There was no doubt in his mind that some of the current problems facing the nation's steel industry were due to the "over-sized" wage increases that had been seen in the industry.

In answers to other questions from the senator, he criticized repeatedly the Congress for failing to take actions to strengthen the prospects for increased

business profits. He said new social security tax increases and legislation to raise the minimum wage would add to production costs, possibly lower consumer spending and increase inflation. He felt that Congress recently had been legislating inflation.

Dr Burns called for permanent tax cuts and for plans by the Congress and the Administration that also involved real cuts in public expenditure. He said that for the full 1978 fiscal year it now appeared that the total Federal Government deficit would be \$69,000m (\$38,333m), which was almost \$16,000m greater than the 1977 deficit.

He also pointed out that in the six months to the end of next March the United States Treasury would probably have to borrow about \$10,000m more than it did in the corresponding year earlier period.

Dr Burns was confident that the economic recovery would continue, although it was unlikely that unemployment in the year ahead would fall below 6.5 per cent from its current 7 per cent rate.

He noted that the Fed believed the economy was now growing at a faster pace than was seen in the third quarter of this year when real gross national product rose at an annual rate of 3.8 per cent.



Sir James Goldsmith yesterday: ready to bow out as chairman.

Sir James set to end Britannia Arrow reign

By Bryan Appleyard

Sir James Goldsmith seems ready to end his reign as chairman of Britannia Arrow Holdings, formerly Slater, Walker Securities, after two years in a job that he originally forecast would occupy him for six months.

Announcing the departure of two directors from the board at yesterday's annual meeting, Sir James said the directors had now largely achieved what they had set out to do in October 1975.

An announcement about the "further restructuring of the board" would be made as soon as it was appropriate to do so.

Sir James expects the company, now largely an insurance investment management group, to break even in 1978 following the losses announced in the first six months of this year. It is now expected to make a profit of £1.8m, against £6.3m last year.

The two directors who are leaving the board are Mr Dominique Leca and Mr Derek Thomason, whose areas of activity have been hived off.

Sir James told shareholders that the company had agreed to sell its property sales recently totalling £21.6m on top of the £14m sold to Slater, Walker Limited, which itself was sold to the Bank of England for £2.5m. These disposals include the

largest remaining property—an office block in Brussels.

He reported that the company now held investment and dealing property to a book value of £12m after deduction of the remaining provision against losses of £6.4m. The board thought these properties could be realized in excess of book value, but believed any reduction in the provision to be inappropriate.

Additionally, £3.2m of investments have been realized at £700,000 over book value, making total realizations of £29m, of which £28.5m has been used to repay debts—almost all of them overseas.

For the future he pointed out that the insurance side was taking on no general business, concentrating any expansion on the life side.

Mr Ivor Kinnington, a director, said the consideration of preference dividend arrears against ordinary dividends would have to be considered by the board in due course.

Sir James said the shareholders could be sure that this board or its successors would give the payment of dividends full priority when the trading position made it possible.

Mr Shore outlines his £400m spending plans

By John Huxley

As expected, the bulk of the £400m additional expenditure for the construction and civil engineering industries in 1978-79 announced by the Chancellor last month will go into the building sector, especially housing.

However, in announcing spending details yesterday, Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, said civil engineering would also benefit from the increased expenditure on roads and some of the other environmental services.

He said that the increases would halt the decline in departmental construction programmes and give scope for modest increases in some sectors in 1978-79.

"This will keep these programmes at a steady level, and should produce greater stability for the industry."

Mr Shore explained that a large part of the expenditure would be undertaken by local authorities.

In England, housing will receive about half of the money available, enabling housing associations and authorities to restore some of the 1976 cuts and put the housing capital programme back on to a rising trend, he said.

The breakdown of expenditure is: housing, £150m; other environmental services, £33.5m; health and personal services, £37m; education, £26m; trans-

port, £23m; defence, £8m; trade, £8m; Home Office services, £5m; Property Services Agency, £3.5m; Lord Chancellor's department, £3m; employment, £1m; energy, £0.7m; agriculture, fisheries, food and forestry, £0.3m; and other public services, £1m.

Programmes within the responsibilities of the Secretaries of State for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland receive £76m.

A further £24m has been left unallocated and is available for other purposes.

British Waterways Board will receive £5m to undertake urgent repair and maintenance work, and a further £4m will go on the Urban Programme.

Mr Shore has decided not to introduce any scheme for imposing fees for building regulation applications next year. This means that local authorities in England and Wales will forgo an estimated £13m in revenue.

"I shall, therefore, be allowing local authorities an additional £13m in revenue to count as relevant expenditure for the purposes of the rate support grant settlement, which I shall be making shortly."

Reaction from the construction industry to the £400m package has been muted, largely by disappointment that the aid was not being made immediately available.

Productivity deal may give sugar men 19 pc rise

By Roger Viole

British Sugar Corporation has signed a pay deal with its 5,500 process workers which could give rises of 19 per cent.

The corporation, in which the Government has a 24 per cent stake, is to increase pay by an average 10 per cent and introduce a self-financing productivity scheme for all employees.

It has been cleared by the Government, and hailed by union leaders as a "genuine model" productivity agreement.

All workers will receive a guaranteed 4.4 per cent this year largely because of the good sugar beet crop. They will then go on to earn further bonus payments, depending on the amount of sugar produced, compared with the total labour costs.

Canvey rejects new Occidental refinery plans

By Roger Viole

Revised plans by Occidental Petroleum for a six million barrel-a-day oil refinery at Canvey Island in Essex have been rejected by Castle Point District Council.

The council, which already had permission for a simple hydro-skimming plant, wanted to include a catalytic cracker to produce more gasoline and chemical feedstocks in the revamped project.

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Occidental began work



Mr. Paul Zetter reports record results.

Group turnover (after payments to pools winners and betting duty)	£5,441,000	up by 39%
Profits before taxation	£695,000	up by 38%
Profits after taxation	£273,000	up by 40%
Dividend	1.16p per share	
Earnings per share	4.16p	up by 34%

The following are extracts from the Chairman's circulated statement for the year ended 31st March, 1977:—

● **Football Pools** The year which ended on 31st March, 1977, saw the successful conclusion of the acquisition of Cope's Pools and the start of the negotiations for Emswile Pools. These negotiations, as all shareholders were informed on the 8th June, have also been successfully concluded.

Consequently, since I wrote my report at this time last year, we have taken over two most important rivals, with the result of increasing our turnover threefold, and, in the process, rationalising the Football Pools industry.

Your Directors were satisfied that considerable advantages were to be gained from these takeovers. With the benefit of more than two months of operational experience behind us, this view has been confirmed.

● **Bingo** One can never be really satisfied to report lack of progress, but in all circumstances there is reason for some satisfaction this year.

The causes were well identified—a very long hot summer in 1976, when attendance at our Clubs, in common with all such indoor leisure activities, understandably attracted very low attendances, followed by a long, hot and cold winter, notwithstanding these two conditions, profits have satisfactorily held.

● **Future** It is clearly too early to forecast results, but the year has started well and we are all optimistic. If the enormous efforts of a marvellous Staff and Board of Directors are justly rewarded, our optimism will be seen to be amply justified.



Nine months' results

Interim Statement

The results for the nine months ended 30th September 1977, estimated and subject to audit, are compared below with those for the similar period in 1976 which are restated at 31st December 1976 rates of exchange; also shown are the actual results for the full year 1976.

It must be emphasised that the results for the interim period do not necessarily provide a reliable indication of those for the full year.

	9 Months 1977	9 Months 1976	Year 1976
Net written premiums—General Business	534.8	463.7	620.3
Investment Income	38.0	41.2	60.0
Underwriting Results—General Business	(6.3)	(14.6)	(17.6)
Long Term Insurance Profits	1.9	1.4	1.9
Loan & Bank Interest	31.6	27.8	44.3
Profit before Tax & Minority Interests	50.4	26.6	42.6
Exchange Rates:			
U.S.A.	\$1.75	\$1.70	\$1.70
Canada	\$1.88	\$1.71	\$1.71

Net written premiums and investment income increased in sterling terms by 15.3% and 40.7%, respectively. Adjusted to exclude the effects of currency fluctuations, the increases were 18.0% and 44.2%, respectively.

The underwriting loss in the United Kingdom was £3.2 million (1976, £3.6 million loss) on net written premiums of £176 million (1976, £148 million). The Motor and Homeowners accounts both contributed to the loss for the nine months, but the improvements reported at the half year have been maintained. The Liability accounts, however, have shown some deterioration.

In the United States net written premiums were \$371 million (1976, \$314 million) and the operating ratio was 101.12% as compared with 104.88% for the same period in 1976. The Automobile department shows a continuing improvement and better results were achieved also in the Property classes although the latter remain in a loss position. The Liability departments, however, have again produced poor results.

A satisfactory third quarter performance was obtained in all other major territories, with the exception of Europe where further substantial losses were incurred in the Netherlands.



General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation Ltd.
World Headquarters, General Buildings, Perth, Scotland.

ECGD lifts insurance cover on British exports to 37.7pc

By Caroline Atkinson

Nearly 38 per cent of British exports are now covered by insurance with the Government's Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The annual report of the department, published yesterday, shows that there was a 39.8 per cent rise in the value of exports insured in 1976-77, to a total of £11,728m. This represents a volume increase of 13 per cent.

Exports covered by the department have increased steadily from under 28 per cent 10 years ago to the present 37.7 per cent. In 1975-76 about 35.5 per cent was covered.

Claims paid out to exporters under the scheme rose by 61 per cent to a record of £61.7m in the last financial year.

The bulk of the department's business relates to short-term credit for exporters where payment is due within 180 days. The value of this business rose by 44 per cent last year to £9,358m (79.3 per cent of the total insured exports).

Guarantees to banks are also given by the department, enabling exporters to get bank credit more easily and on more favourable terms. The total outstanding export finance provided by banks under these guarantees went up from £2,409m in 1975-76 to around £3,000m in the year ending March, 1977.

The department is also involved in non-trading activities on which it does not

operate as a commercial body aiming to cover costs. These include the refinancing of fixed rate sterling export credits and subsidising of export credit interest rates.

Since last year there has been a move to encourage exporters to finance major contracts in foreign currencies. This affects the buyer credit guarantees, where the department guarantees British bank loans to overseas purchasers of heavy exports.

The Chancellor included the change in his measures last December as the foreign currency finance obtained immediately benefits the balance of payments capital account (so bolstering the pound) and the switch from sterling credit (which is now refinanced by the department) cuts the cost to the Government of the refinancing.

There have been suggestions recently that this switch is no longer desirable now that the pound is so strong.

The department said, however, that the Government was still keen to maintain the switch for the small proportion of exports affected by it.

Talks are continuing between the banks and the department about cutting the government cost of sterling finance by raising the amount of loans taken by the banks. At present about 75 per cent of new buyer credit guarantees in sterling are refinanced by the department.

Surveyors back unit trust investment in property

By Desmond Quigley

Unit trusts should be allowed to attract funds for investment in property, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors states in its evidence to the Finance Committee, which is investigating the operations of financial institutions.

The institute argues in its report that there is nothing to suggest that investment in property has diverted money from industry. On the contrary, it is argued that property investment is directly and indirectly beneficial to industry and commerce.

Criteria applied by financial institutions when considering investment in property are

given as well as the main sources of finance, long and short-term, with the volume of funds invested.

The report claims that foreign investment in United Kingdom property, which has sometimes been the subject of public criticism, is considered to be on a small scale.

There is no indication, the institute states, that the operation of the property market has produced an over-supply of any one category at the expense of another, although some categories, such as residential property for letting, woodlands and minerals, are unattractive because of low returns or high risks.

Business appointments

Sedgwick Forbes' new directors

Mr R. C. R. Cox, Mr A. S. Leslie and Mr C. M. Mossall will join the board of Sedgwick Forbes Holdings on January 1.

Mr J. H. F. Winday, Mr W. E. Parton and Mr M. R. Riscoe are retiring.

Mr J. F. Croftfield has gone on to take over as Baker Perkins.

Mr D. E. Filer and Dr W. F. Madden join the board of ICI plastics division on January 1. Two directors, Dr J. Galsbury and Dr A. H. Willbourn and the deputy chairman, Mr R. B. Richards, will retire in March.

Mr P. E. Hurston, resident director in London of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, becomes chairman of the Corporation's London office.

In succession to Sir John Saunders, who remains a member, Mr M. J. Gent joins the committee in place of Mr K. C. Anderson, who has retired.

Mr David Newbigging, chairman and senior managing director of Jardine, Matheson & Company has been made a member of the International Council of Morgan Guaranty Trust.

Mr W. T. Cook has become a director and Mr W. W. Say a special director of Ewa Industries.

Sir George Leeds is now chairman of Clive Investments (Jersey).

Mr Rimay Nassar has been appointed to the board of Blue Bird Confectionery Holdings and its group companies.

Mr E. McGillivray becomes managing director of Renton Group on January 1 after the retirement of Mr E. M. Buchan who remains on the board as a non-executive director.

Mr J. McCue has become managing director of Mr A. A. Tyrer as managing director of Rentokil.

Mr S. P. Roberts has been made an additional director of E. Heath & Company (Midlands).

Mr Terry Harris has been made a director of Ewa Industries.

Mr D. A. H. Younger has joined the board of EC Cases as a non-executive director.

Mr D. A. S. Maclellan is to be made a director of Weir Westgarth from January 1.

Mr Eric Pattle has been appointed chief executive-designate of Moore Business Forms, United Kingdom and Eire region, succeeding Mr John Grant who is retiring.

Mr Geoffrey Cope joins the board of Wigham Poland Holdings.

Mr Ian McKinnon has become managing director of Aveling Marshall.

£4.4m extension for Ford plant

Ford of Britain is to invest £4.4m in modernizing and extending the car body and assembly toolroom at its Dagenham, Essex, plant.

Work will start early next year to add 1,500 sq metres to the existing 5,200 sq metres of workspace. The aim is to provide up to 76,000 more hours of output each year, reduce the need for outside tooling services and improve working conditions.

New machines will include two copy mills costing over £1m, which automatically reproduce any given car shape, and two mills for surface machining of heavy castings, together worth £1.2m.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Golds gleam amid surrounding gloom

The two-day rally came to an abrupt halt as share prices again succumbed to discouraging news on the industrial front.

Until 3 pm, when the FT Index was four points lower, the drift in prices owed much to lack of interest than selling. Run late reports that the Yorkshire power works were calling for a total strike put an altogether different complexion on things and by the close the index was 9.9 off at 482.3 as the selling pressure built up.

Though gilts had a rather better session they were mixed by the close. Short-dates issues ended at or a little below their overnight levels while at the longer-end gains were, at best, half a point and in most cases less.

Once again the equity market proved its present sensitivity to industrial news and another source of disappointment was the level of banking marked which, at 4.772, was the lowest since late August.

ABF's £2m strike loss could be topped by RHM which has a bigger market share. Final results from RHM, due later this month, are likely to show a heavy loss but it is the current period that will be hit by the stoppage. Meanwhile, like the other bakery giants, RHM is looking for a 2p to 3p a share rise which may or may not be enough to pull the division back into the black.

Contractor John Mowlem proved to be one of the day's strongest features after news of a dividend boosting acquisition.

On the bid from Morgan-Grants, gave up 15p to 153p as profits were taken, while speculative demand boosted Electrocomponents 12p to 315p. Johnson-Richards Tiles rose 2p to 242p and householders Orme Development which gave up 2p to 55p. For late last named the attraction could be the acquisition of a hand bank.

In the engineering sector Stealey Industries gave up a 3p rise which preceded figures to end 6p lower at 235p, while

Chubb eased a penny to 118p after confirmation of the fears expressed here. A gain of 4p to 142p for Vosper owed much to compensation hopes, while interim figures left Richardson's Westgarth unchanged at 56p. After recent figures Lucas reacted 10p to 276p, but Smiths Industries, another reporting this week, gained 5p to 163p.

Dutch losses from General Accident had the shares 10p lower to 240p and also cast a shadow over the insurance sector. Among the worst affected were Royal which lost 10p to 408p and Guardian Royal Exchange which ended 8p down to 250p.

130 elsewhere in financials encouraging lending and deposit figures helped the clearing banks to have another strong session. There were gains of 8p from Barclays at 325p and Midland at 355p, while Bank of Scotland, 265p, Lloyd's 25p and National Westminster 267p also advanced by five points.

Over in papers the friendless Reed Group was still hindered by the troubles at the Daily Mirror, losing another 4p to 130p, but Pyramid held steady at 40p after figures. Favourable comment lifted Mitchell Somers 2p to 54p while capital plans had Consolidated Plantations 8p ahead to 106p. Epicure was

suspended at 35p on takeover news. In the electrical sector BHI gave up all of a 5p gain which preceded their report and by the close were a point down to 211p. But both ICL 4p to 216p and Decca 'A' 10p to 405p resisted the trend to gain ground.

One sector to record good gains was golds with strong performance from West Golds, up 75p to £12.12, West Driefontein 62p to £20, FS Geduld 50p to £11.37 and Buffelsfontein 40p to £9.50.

Figures from J. Crowther and A. Aronson brought a bullish response the shares rising 2p to 40p and 7p to 35p respectively. But Readhead dipped 21p to 311p on some disappointment with figures and forecast. Whitbread 'A' held steady at 89p after comment on the previous day's figures.

The worst hit of the industrial leaders, especially late in the day, were Bechtel at 625p and Glaxo at 595p and both off 12p at the close. Others heavily in retreat were Unilever 8p to 360p and ICI 7p to 363p, though many feel the latter has now discounted most of the market fears in its price.

In foods most interest centred on figures from J. Sainsbury which, it was hoped, would show up the effect of the High

Street pricing war. In the event the shares slipped 13p to 217p after a warning on future profit margins.

In oils the Lasso Ops gained 3p to 398p.

Staveley did not fulfil the best market hopes and the shares weakened yesterday. But B. Elliott rose 3p to 110p. Profits assisted by newcomer Newall Machine Tool should rise by at least 50 per cent, to £5.3m and possibly more this year and Elliott paid for Newall partly in cash, fortifying earnings a share. The South African profit contribution is small. But even so the shares depend on their market as much as anything.

The worsening labour news lopped several pence from industrial leaders after hours. In Equity turnover on November 8 was £67.10m (12,282 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, BAT, DfD, Barclays Bank, Grand Metropolitan, Midland Bank, National Westminster Bank, Bowater, Coral, GEC, Orme Developments, Unilever, Shell, Commercial Union, Consolidated Gold Fields, General Accident, Electrocum, Plantations, Whitbread, Consolidated Plantations and Sainsbury.

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Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int of Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Ambrose (F)	11,917.6	0.26(0.23)	1.81(1.51)	1.81(1.51)	—	1.9(1.9)
A. Aronson (F)	11,917.6	0.47(0.48b)	6.16(10.30b)	1.21(2.1)	—	—
Ash Spring (I)	2.4(2.3)	0.01(0.008)	11.48(1.51)	1.01(1.0)	30/11	(3.9)
John Bright (I)	42.3(27.5)	0.10(0.41)	0.95(0.55)	1.02(1.2)	12/12	(3.4)
Compo Hidge (F)	—	0.04(—)	1.37(1.23)	1.37(1.23)	7/12	(3.4)
Cope Sportswear (I)	3.1(2.2)	0.21(0.15)	2.23(2.34)	0.24(0.32)	6/1	(0.35)
John Crowther (I)	2.7(3.1)	0.02(0.05)	—	—	—	(0.8)
Eliswack-Hoppy (I)	5.4(3.4)	0.35(0.20)	—	—	19/12	(3.1)
John Foster (I)	6.4(4.8)	0.12(0.14b)	—	—	31/1	0.9(0.7)
Gen Accident (I)	50.4(26.8)	10.4(11.6c)	—	—	—	(1.6)
Bulleys Corp (I)	47.1c(142.5c)	0.43(0.32)	1.91(1.56)	0.43(0.38)	20/12	0.7(0.6)
Lon & Pro She (F)	1.0(0.83)	2.4(2.1)	1.54(1.33)	0.47(0.42)	—	(1.3)
Readhead Int (I)	42.8(36.8)	0.97(0.65)	3.7(2.4)	1.05(1.05)	6/1	(4.0)
Richardson West (I)	19.4(20.3)	12.46(10.7)	—	2.03(1.62)	2/1	13.0(7.7)
J. Sainsbury (I)	406.1(326.1)	0.31(0.17)	3.70(2.07)	0.33(0.30)	—	(0.8)
Staveley Ind (I)	1.8(1.2)	—	—	—	—	—
W Brom Spring (I)	1.8(1.2)	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown gross multiply the net dividend by 1.15. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Forecast, b Loss, c Rands.

Gross Cash loss restrains Chubb and rise in pound is hurting

By Victor Felstead

The impact on Chubb & Son, the lock and safe company, caused by the takeover earlier this year of Gross Cash Registers can be gauged from the latest figures. But efforts are being made to pull round the company.

In the half-year to September 30, group pre-tax profits were just 5.1 per cent up at £5.39m on the back of a 29.2 per cent increase in sales to £35.33m.

These figures include the 81 months' loss from Gross Cash since acquisition and profits for nine months from the other divisions, L & F Williams. Excluding these first-half sales were up by 15 per cent and pre-tax profits by almost 22 per cent.

The market seems to have discounted the news and the shares edged only a penny to the 118p yesterday. Last month they were 133p.

The board explains that at the time of the takeover of Gross it was expected there would be a continuing pre-tax loss and this was reflected in



Lord Hayter, chairman.

the terms of the offer. In fact, in the period since the takeover the loss was £1.1m. In the period since January 1, Willenhall has made £251,000 pre-tax. Action is being taken to rectify the problems at Gross, which should be trading at a "modest level of profitability" by the end of this year. But at the pre-

tax level, Gross's figures will be affected by the cost of supporting borrowing and domestic turnover shows that home sales were 53.5 per cent higher at £42.37m and overseas (including United Kingdom exports) 14.8 per cent ahead at £53.55m.

Trading profits managed an 11.4 per cent gain to £6.67m. But net interest charges were up by half to £1.27m, so pre-tax profits were just 1 per cent better at £5.39m. Of this, home's share was actually down by 5.4 per cent, while overseas was almost 10 per cent up.

The board declares that the group is in good shape and has a healthy order book. But there are bound to be for some time heavier interest charges relating to Gross. The movement of sterling against overseas currencies will materially affect the conversion of overseas profits at the year-end.

The recovery of the Chubb companies on the Continent has not only been maintained, but the rate of recovery and the resultant profits have risen

Mowlem bid near doubles dividend

Construction group John Mowlem is to spend £4m on a bid deal which will expand its interests into the process engineering business for the oil and gas industries.

The privately owned company is controlled by the family interests of chairman Mr James McBurney, who achieved millionaire status on the basis of the deal.

The Mowlem take-over price is linked to the profits performance of McBurney in the current financial year. Around £4m will be paid initially in the form of £588,000 cash and the rest in Mowlem shares, while the balance of up to £16.5m will be paid in the form of McBurney shares at the April 30 year-end.

Included in the take-over is Colindale, a small private company developing a new plastic-based building material for the construction industry.

Because the construction group has issued a substantial number of new shares, Treasury permission has been granted for the near doubling of the dividend this year.

Shareholders can expect dividends totalling 9.85p gross for the year to December 31, 1977, against 5.0p (adjusted).

There is also the promise of much improved results from Mowlem. Pre-tax profits for the first nine months to June 30 amounted to £2.7m and the directors anticipate a similar performance in the second half year. However, an eight-month contribution from McBurney which made a pre-tax surplus for the year to April 30 last of £382,000 on turnover of £10m—could push the Mowlem figure beyond £6m.

Net tangible assets of McBurney at the year-end were £2.7m. Earlier this year Mowlem bought the contracting interests of Henry Ireland for around £500,000.

Slea plans reverse bid so Epicure is suspended

For the second time in little more than four months, Epicure Holdings has had its shares suspended. This time the reason is the takeover of Slea Holdings, a private company, about a merger.

The two groups are, to say the least, closely linked. Epicure was once a small piece of the London empire and Estates House Investment Trust eventually sold most of it to Slea Holdings. For its 84 per cent stake it paid 51p a share.

The idea now is that in reverse takeover Epicure will swallow the whole of Slea through a share issue. Slea, the bigger company—is owned by Mr R. J. Breeley, chairman of Epicure and Mr L. Breeley, an Epicure director.

Slea's board has agreed to extend Epicure's option to acquire about 35 per cent of Epicure, pending the outcome of the talks.

For all its modest size, Epicure has been a stock

market wonder. Last May it asked for a suspension (the shares were then 35p) while it pondered reports on the potential of a gearbox mechanism developed by Epicure.

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For all its modest size, Epicure has been a stock

J Foster set for better year

The busiest part of John Foster's year comes in the second half and the group is undismayed by its interim loss of £127,000. This is in any case down on last year's £148,000 loss. Thanks mainly to better exports, this spinning and weaving group—it is based at the famous Black Dyke Mills in Bradford—reports a much larger order book than for the same time last year.

Mr G. F. Grant, chairman, expects pre-tax profits for the full year to be "significantly greater" than the £382,000 brought in for the year to March 31.

Pundaloya talking to Scottish Ceylon

Merger talks are on between Pundaloya Holdings and Scottish Ceylon Tea, a joint announcement said yesterday.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Accountants and the public interest

The Cross Report on the disciplinary procedures of the major United Kingdom accountancy bodies has put the profession in a very tight corner. Suggestions for improving the monitoring of complaints of inadequate work for private clients are not contentious and are likely to be accepted with alacrity by the institutes, but in considering the question of professional competence involving the public interest, Cross enters much stonier ground. For if the solution he proposes proves not to be workable the alternative could be a statutory authority appointed by the Government.

So to some extent accountants risk losing their valued independence. But there is a growing understanding that the problems of self-regulation for a professional body, which provides the most important check against fraud and managerial error on behalf of the investing public is different both in kind and complexity from self-regulation of the City's markets.

The Cross Report suggests the accountancy bodies set up a tribunal with appeal machinery, including a layman with financial knowledge, to examine bad workmanship which has come to its attention as a result of a Department of Trade Inspectors' or similar reports. If misconduct is established, the case may be dealt with by the institutes' existing constitutional rules, but if professional incompetence only is found, the tribunal would publish an appropriate censure statement.

Considering the statutory alternative, Cross says it would be illogical to set up any statutory tribunal whose jurisdiction was confined solely to accountants, as there may be many others who have had a hand in incompetence resulting in the public's loss.

The guardians of the financial community are not accountants generally, but accountants acting as auditors. An accountant who is a director is in the same position as a lawyer who is a director, the fact of his professional background is irrelevant. The public is concerned that the guardians it asks to check accounts, checks them properly, and when they fail to do so are seen to be punished.

The attractions of a limited statutory authority to do this may be too great for either the profession or the Department of Trade to ignore.

J Sainsbury

Feeling the Tesco squeeze

Guarded comments from Sainsbury on the current trading outlook can only strengthen the views of those who think it is time to be selling food retailers' shares while they still command a premium rating. Sainsbury's own results are entirely respectable. Sales are up by 24½ per cent to £406m, profits are



Mr John Sainsbury, chairman of J. Sainsbury.

16.4 per cent ahead at £12.5m, and volume sales are 4 per cent higher against a grocery trade drop of about the same amount.

But the pressure on margins apparent in the first half, and noted on Tuesday by AB Foods, is evidently continuing under the impact of the increasingly competitive conditions sparked off by Tesco.

All of this leaves the industry as a whole looking exposed. The days when profits rose because food prices were climbing much faster than costs are now effectively over, and the two seem likely to move much more in tandem.

Meanwhile, Sainsbury itself is not expecting a repeat this year of the extraordinarily buoyant second half in 1976-77, so profit growth in this period may not be much more

Business Diary: Foreign legion • Welcome to Moscow

Which would you say was the most profitable foreign-owned company operating in this country? Esso? Ford? IBM? If you said any of these, you would be wrong, wrong, wrong.

The answer, according to Roger Coghill, who helped compile the latest publication from Jordan Dataquest, a survey of foreign-owned companies in Britain, is Tampax, the American-owned maker of menstrual tampons.

Pre-tax profits in 1975, Coghill reports, were 42.34 per cent of sales, good enough by any measure—except Tampax's, in that this marked a fall from the 1974 figure of 49.48 per cent.

The top 20 of Jordan's survey of 1,000 foreign-owned companies, a new publication that may become an annual event, shows that they export 16.2 per cent of turnover, more than twice as much as British public, and three times as much as British private companies.

These top 20 may far better than United Kingdom companies, an average of £3,177, against £2,603 for British quoted, and £2,202 for British private concerns. But far from milking the British economy, as Coghill puts it, foreign firms, according to their accounts, are substantially less profitable than British companies. The average margin is 3.55 per cent, compared with 7.47 per cent in United Kingdom public and 4.79 per cent in United Kingdom private firms.

We say "according to their accounts" because some profits are made on sales from the parent company to subsidiaries which do not appear in the British accounts.

Coghill says that the scale of foreign activity in Britain is underestimated, not least by the Treasury. He points out that its measurement of money supply (M3) takes in only 300 foreign companies, omitting many millions of pounds in sales and currency movements. Britain's Top 1,000 Foreign-Owned Companies, 1976, Jordan Dataquest, £12. Available only from the publishers at Jordan House, Brunswick Place, London N1 6BE.

John Marshalko is in London this week to talk to the travel trade and to launch his new guidebook, *Moscow for the Business Traveller*.

Marshalko is an American Express's man in the Russian capital and the only full-blown foreign travel agent permitted to co-operate with what he calls the "monopresent monopoly".



American Express's John Marshalko: tips to and from the traveller in the USSR.

of the state tourist organization Intourist. He has been in Moscow two and a half years, but his company has been there since 1958, having got a foot in the door at the time of a cultural agreement between the United States and the U.S.S.R. under which the Russians wanted an Intourist office in Washington badly enough to let American Express into Moscow.

Marshalko—an American citizen born in Hungary—told Business Diary's Ross Davies that there was an "enormous" shortage of international class hotel bedrooms in the Russian capital.

Night after night, he said, visiting businessmen found themselves without a room, though night after night 15 per cent of Moscow rooms might also be empty. The fault was as much the inefficient distribution system as room shortage.

It takes at least one and a half hours to be served lunch and as much as two and a half for dinner, he said. The most popular lunch venue for exporters was now the self-service restaurant at where else?—the Intourist hotel.

Marshalko's guide makes it clear that at least one capitalist custom has travelled well—tipping "Bell boys, waiters, floor and wardrobe attendants and paid drivers", he writes, "expect and accept tips in cash".

Much of the success that Leyland's controversial new Mini will, or will not, have in the hands of a 38-year-old mother of two. As marketing manager (small cars), Mrs.

Lindsay Campbell has the job of selling a car which some say will be the best of the competition when it appears late in 1979.

Mrs Campbell, an applied chemistry graduate of Glasgow University, has a wide range of disciplines of science for what she describes as "the fair of marketing". After spells with Unilever and Becton she became convenience foods product manager for Cadbury Schweppes, where she helped to launch Smash, the instant mashed potato, as well as Marvel dried milk and then drinking chocolate.

Mrs Campbell joined Leyland Cars in March, but is still little known outside the Redditch headquarters of the sales and marketing division.

Business Diary asked to be told a little about her plans for the new Mini. "I think you will have to wait and see", she said. "Although we are already working on it, a lot can happen between now and the launch date, which could change our approach". But she was quick to point out that as a woman she had an advantage: "Fifty per cent of the main drivers of Minis are women. They also account for 41 per cent of the small car sector as a whole and 20 per cent of the total car market."

"They also play a significant role in influencing the choice of larger cars bought by their husbands."

Her own husband, Tony, is an electrical engineer with a Birmingham security company. They have a seven-year-old son and a five-year-old daughter who are taken to school in, what else?, the family Mini.

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FINANCIAL NEWS

EMI chief says that US decline only a moment of market pause

By Desmond Quigley
EMI's world medical electronics business is unlikely to show a greater volume in the current financial year than in 1976/77, Sir John Read, chairman, says in his statement in the latest annual report.

The main problem is the decline in business in North America, the most important market, without a sufficiently strong growth in other markets to compensate.

Sir John comments that this is a moment of market pause, allowing for essential consolidation, before an upturn in North America takes place together with continuing growth in other international markets.

The group holds half the world market for brain and body scanners (computerized tomography scanners) and cumulative orders have exceeded 850. Some 700 have already been delivered, with North America taking over 400 systems.

However, last year the United States Government stepped up measures to regulate expenditure on capital equipment by



Sir John Read, chairman.

medical institutions, the chairman writes, thus leading to a marked decline in the rate of new orders being placed for scanners.

EMI, which is concentrating heavily on expanding its medical electronics side, has a medical research and development programme running at an annual rate of £12m.

On the current year's trading prospects, the chairman considers that with the world economic tempo far from buoyant, EMI's performance is bound to continue to be affected. Last year the group increased pre-tax profits to £64.7m from £59.4m.

The balance sheet deteriorated during the year with the level of borrowings to shareholders' funds rising from 60 per cent to 91 per cent. This reflected a sharp increase in loans and borrowings, and in goodwill.

The debt/equity ratio would have exceeded 1:1 but for the acquisition of Development Securities, an investment company, which injected £24.1m in cash into the group.

Last year the proportionate profits contributions from the various divisions of EMI were little changed on the previous year with music contributing 43 per cent, while electronics, radio and television equipment slipped back 4 per cent to 36 per cent.

Second half likely to be poor at Readicut

In the current climate of uncertainty the board of Readicut does not expect the second half to match last year's although a satisfactory result for the full year is still expected. Last year the rugmats, kilns, knitting wool and floor coverings group, reported a 29 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to a record £7.22m. This compares with £5.5m for the previous year.

For the six months to September 30, the group shows a slight rise in pre-tax profits from £2.1m to £2.4m while turnover has risen from £36m to £42m with external sales accounting for £32m against £28m.

Of the divisions within the group retail, readies, yarns and other interests all performed satisfactorily, producing greater profits than last year. A significantly higher contribution was made by other interests reflecting the continuing turnaround at Panksters.

The carpets and overseas divisions however both earned less.

The process of slow economic recovery in the United Kingdom continues in an atmosphere of financial buoyancy, while the underlying outlook for the economy remains far from secure with unrest in many industries. Troubles in the motor industry have already held back the group's sales to that market for the six months under review.

Staveley gets more from less but dealers are disappointed

By Bryan Appleyard

Staveley Industries has once again managed to squeeze higher profits out of lower volumes, but its results for the year to October 1 were below most market hopes.

Pre-tax profits were £9.1m against £6.8m the year before on turnover up from £103.8m to £120.2m. Staveley is in the process of changing its year end to April 1 so the results are still classed as interim.

The group acquired George Saker for £4.1m in January so stripping out its £10m turnover contribution leaves an increase in sales for the parent company of just 6 per cent. This indicates a substantial volume fall.

Dr Adolf Frankel, managing director, holds out little hope of any pickup in volume over the next six months. But he believes that higher profits can still be made from existing resources through greater efficiency.

Continuing investment, now running at about £7m annually, means high capacity modern plant that in some cases is less than 50 per cent in use.

Market conditions generally were worse than expected and the line division traded at a loss. British Salt, however, improved substantially, and foundries and abrasives continued to grow, though more slowly than planned. Electrical and mechanical services held their

own but conditions in North America continue to be "very difficult."

Financially no substantial increase in gearing is expected to finance working capital and investment.

Looking further ahead Dr Frankel said that he was pessimistic about the world economy. But he still expected Staveley to be able to make "quite a respectable growth of profits".

The shares fell 6p to 235p yesterday. The price earnings ratio is 8 and the gross yield 5.4 per cent on the basis of the two interim dividends totalling 12.8p. The board forecast total dividends of 19.8p for the eighteenth month.

R. Westgarth still in dark about state payout

By Alison Mitchell

A better performance by the manufacturing and services subsidiaries of Tyneside engineering group Richardson, Westgarth propelled pre-tax profits from £55,000 to £97,500 in the first six months of this year. Turnover slipped from £20.3m to £19.4m.

Stripping out the previous figures from marine engine building offshoot George Clark & NEAL, vested in British Shipbuilders on July 1, profits show a 52 per cent rise, on turnover up from £15m.

In the period under review the contribution from this company has been restricted to a £178,000 dividend, under the provisions of the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act.

Mr Archibald Boyd, chairman, reports that, as yet, there has been no indication from the Government of the amount of compensation.

The directors are forecasting second half profits at a similar level to the first six months, which could see the group nudging the £2m pre-tax for the year. Results, then, will reflect both the departure of George Clark & NEAL and the difficult trading conditions affecting shiprepairing and steel stockholding.

Earlier this week another North East group, Swan Hunter, announced its plans for shipbuilding nationalization reconstruction.

J. Crowther races out of the red

After two years of losses, the Huddersfield-based John Crowther Group is turning the corner, in the first half of this year, it more than doubled its trading profit from £72,000 to £191,000. Turnover went up from £2.19m to £2.75m.

Although depreciation and bank interest were heavier, Crowther produced a pre-tax profit of £24,000, against a loss last time of £64,000. While saying that the turnaround has been gratifying, the board reports that current conditions have been influenced by the mild autumn.

The group makes cloths from wool and synthetic fibres, and it supplies processed synthetic fibres to other manufacturers. Diversification, particularly into products the group has not previously developed, is encouraging.

Percy Lane set to top £1m for the first time

It looks as if Percy Lane, the maker of aluminium windows for caravans and disposal chutes systems, should top the million pound mark for the first time. This implies a rise in pre-tax profits of 15 to 20 per cent in the year to December 31. This is better than seemed likely at one time. There was a warning earlier this year from Mr Peter Lane, chairman, on the outlook for the remainder of the year about overstocking of caravans in both the United Kingdom and on the Continent. He feared a reduction in demand.

At present the group is launching a range of acrylic caravan windows which fully meets the proposed United Kingdom requirements in safety glazing for caravans and is being introduced to the caravan industry at the Caravan Camping Holiday Show.

Formed from cast and extruded acrylic sheet the range

has been developed for the British market by the group's Luxembourg subsidiary, Para Press, acknowledged as Europe's leading maker of acrylic caravan windows.

Para Press has been making acrylic caravan windows to the exacting demands of continental caravan makers since 1973 and earlier this year completed a £600,000 expansion programme at its factory in Bertrange to handle the additional capacity of the new acrylic range.

The group also plans to unveil a new insect proof louvered ventillator panel developed in this country at its Hardall subsidiary in Luton for use mainly in the Middle East.

At present the group is unconcerned about the rise in value of sterling. Last year its Luxembourg subsidiary contributed 80 per cent to group profits.

Blue Bell jeans wrangle to go on

Blue Bell, the manufacturer of Wrangler jeans, has issued a statement regarding its law suit with Levi Strauss in America. It states:

A Federal District Judge on November 3 that Blue Bell's proposed use of a free floating label on the right rear patch pocket of jeans, would infringe Levi Strauss and the company's trade mark rights.

This ruling has had no adverse effect on Blue Bell's sales, profits or financial position because no garments bearing the particular free floating label have ever been sold or manufactured for sale by Blue Bell.

It is emphasized that this ruling relates to the United States only and has no effect on any existing or planned production by Wrangler outside America. In no way does this affect the neilite patch or the Wrangler trade mark which has been and will continue to be a trademark of quality Blue Bell jeans.

The suit by Levi Strauss was started more than seven years ago. It alleged that Blue Bell violated their rights by using a free-floating label on an inset pocket of jeans.

Blue Bell has been vindicated in its position that a free-floating label showing its trade mark on a rear inset pocket is not an infringement of any rights of Levi Strauss.

However, the court ruled that Levi Strauss does have trade mark rights in a free-floating label, limited to the right rear patch pocket. Blue Bell disagrees with this portion of the decision and will be appealing.

Autopista-Kuwait bond

A 5m Kuwaiti dinar (about £2.5m) 10-year bond issue of Autopista Vasco-Aragonesa, Concesionaria Espanola, has been priced at par bearing 8.75 per cent annually, the syndicate manager, Kuwait Investment Co. says. Guaranteed by the Spanish Government, the

International

notes give the holder an option of either redeeming at par in 1983 or keeping the notes until maturity. The offering was co-managed by Merrill Lynch International.

Carter Hawley deal

Carter Hawley Hale Stores, of Los Angeles, says it has completed the previously announced sale of its 19.4 per cent interest in House of Fraser to Lomax of London for about \$78.8m (about £46.3m). The original proposed sale price, announced in September, was \$76m. But Carter Hawley said the value of the transaction increased because the pound had risen in price since then. The company sold its interest in the House of Fraser for \$74.4m. One third of this amount has been paid in cash and the balance will be paid in three instalments over an 18-month period.

Ensign gets new bid

Ensign Holdings of Australia says it has recommended acceptance by shareholders of an increased offer of \$A1.50 per Ensign share from Bradmill Industries and will accept in respect of all shares held or controlled by the board. A joint statement by Ensign and Bradmill says that Bradmill proposed to increase its bid from its previous offer of \$A1.25 per share conditional upon acceptance by shareholders holding at least 90 per cent of Ensign's issued shares.

Carborundum offer

Eaton Corporation of Cleveland says it plans to make an offer to purchase any and all outstanding common shares of Carborundum Company for \$47 a share. Eaton said that because of state regulations regarding tender offers, a waiting period

will be required before it actually makes the offer for Carborundum common shares.

GEC in Mexican bid

An Anglo-French consortium led by General Electric has made outline presentations in a tender for the first stage of a new suburban railway system for Mexico City, a GEC spokesman says. The French partners are Franco-Belge de Matériel de Chemins de Fer and Société ANF-Industrie. GEC would undertake transformer, signalling, telecommunications and switchgear work. The French companies would provide the rolling stock. The contract is worth about £450m.

Associated Securities

Associated Securities of Australia says it will issue four million 9.5 per cent cumulative redeemable preference shares to its major shareholder, Ansett Transport Industries, and not to all shareholders as originally intended. Listing of the shares will not, therefore, be sought, it said in a letter to the Sydney Stock Exchange. It gave no further details. Ansett holds 48.44 per cent of ASIL's issued ordinary share capital.

Toyota-Nissan charge

A Japanese consumer group has alleged that about 600,000 Toyota motor cars and about 400,000 Nissan models had defects and called on the Transport Ministry to take action to save the firms' recalls. The charge was made by the Japan Automobile Users' Union. According to the union, the 600,000 defective Toyota vehicles included Corona Mark II and Carina cars mounted with 18RU (2,000 cc) and 16RU (1,800 cc) engines that meet the 1975 emission control requirements.

The group claimed that these cars had defective exhaust gas cleaning equipment and were therefore a fire hazard. Toyota has denied that its cars were defective.

Aeroservices offshoot sold by Winn

Another sale has been made by Winn Industries, which sold its international container business for £625,000 earlier this year. Now it has sold its Aeroservices Engineering offshoot to Crownright. The price was £410,000, payable as to £19,000 cash on completion, £5,000 cash on December 31 and the balance in 12 equal monthly instalments, starting on January 31. The deferred sum attracts interest at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent above Barclays' base rate. At completion, £60,000 due to be repaid had been repaid by Crownright.

In 1976 Aeroservices made a profit of £10,000, but in the first six months of this year suffered a loss of £16,000. Winn covers engineering, building and property.

GECROS

Next year to show improved results, although consolidation, development and integration are board's first priority.

ALLIED PLANT

Board is reconstructing group's assets to give the group trustee

MARTONAIR INT

Jump in pre-tax profits for year to July 31 from £2.13m to £2.45m compared with forecast of at least £2.5m made in May.

Briefly

RIGHTWISE-DEUNDI

Board of Deundi advises shareholders to reject Rightwise offer. It proposes to raise dividend from 3.25p to 10p net.

NORSK HYDRO

Group issuing 550m of 5-year notes with annual coupon of 7 1/2 per cent at price of 99 1/2 per cent.

COURTNEY POPE

Chairman says a further significant advance will be achieved in current year.

JENTIQUE (HOLDINGS)

Chairman's annual report says that trading conditions are still difficult, particularly in furniture division, but there are definite signs of an improvement.

ELLENROAD RING MILL

Board says future remains uncertain. After adding a temporary employment subsidy from Government of £27,000, pre-tax profit is £23,500 for half year to October 31 against £64,000.

CATER RYDER

Board says group made a "substantial" profit for six months to end-October.

BACOCK & WILCOX

For \$A2.5m, group has bought C & I Industries of Sydney as part of a five-year development programme in Australia.

HIGHGATE & JOE

Interim profits rose from £87,000 to £103,000 but second half not expected to match these. Delay of large cargo of sperm oil makes forecasting unrealistic.

GALLIFORD BRINDLEY

Trading in first few months confirms that group can look for continued success.

ZETTERS GROUP

Mr Paul Zetter, chairman, told annual meeting that season is going well and turnover is up to expectations.

PYRAMID (PUBLISHERS)

Board says trading is satisfactory and should show an improvement over record result of last year.

MOUNTVIEW ESTATES

Board says profits running at about same level as last year so results for current year should be "no less favourable" for full year.

CLIVE INVESTMENTS

Group has formed a new co. in Jersey, to provide specialist fixed interest fund management in sterling securities for either Channel Islands or other non-United Kingdom resident investors.

TRAFFORD PARK ESTATES

Mr Neil Westbrook, chairman, told the annual meeting that profits for 1977 will be more than the record level of £804,000 achieved in past year.

"The world scene is far from buoyant...this is bound to continue to affect performance in the current trading year...but the long-term outlook for EMI is one of sustained growth and higher profitability"

John Read

Sir John Read, Chairman of the EMI Group

Further extracts from the Report and Accounts and Chairman's Review for the year ended 30 June 1977 published today:

Group sales worldwide increased by over 26 per cent to £851 million. UK exports rose by 67 per cent.

In a challenging year pre-tax profits rose by 9 per cent to £64.7 million and attributable profits by 15 per cent to £28.1 million.

International music profits increased by 20 per cent but did not maintain their earnings rate in the second half of the year.

International electronics profits were higher but were affected by sharp second half depreciation in consumer electronics in

Australia. Medical electronics operations maintained progress.

Leisure businesses, with reduced consumer spending in the UK market, experienced varied results. Total profit increased, with Hotels and Restaurants achieving significant uplift.

Thames Television had its best year ever.



The international music, electronics and leisure group. Operating in more than 30 countries worldwide.

Over 63,000 stockholders and 51,000 employees. Head office: 20 Manchester Square, London W1.



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct 31. Dealings End, Nov 11. \$ Contango Day, Nov 14. Settlement Day, Nov 22

[illegible]

Stepping Stones - Non-Secretarial - Secretarial & General - Tempting Times

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COPY TYPIST
E.C.3

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c. £2,800

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Excellent opportunity for experienced Travel Agents and Managers to join our team. We are looking for people who are enthusiastic, hardworking and have a good knowledge of the travel industry. Salary £3,000-£5,000 p.a. Phone: 01-408 7201.

DESIGNERS GUILD

Requires sales staff with experience of high quality furniture and good knowledge of the furniture trade. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

CLIFTON NURSERY LTD.

Unusual career opportunity for responsible, mature person, interested in horticulture. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

HOW MUCH ARE YOU WORTH?

Would you like to control your own destiny? The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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We are looking for a young, energetic, and ambitious person to join our team. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

WELL-GROOMED PERSON

Required for a hairdressing salon. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

SECRETARIAL

The Design Council's growing Education Section needs a

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To support 3 people who are working to improve the country's standards of design education. This is a new post and you will be involved in many aspects of the work. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

DESIGN COUNCIL
28 HAYMARKET, S.W.1.

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Salary from £3,250 p.a.

Due to his recent promotion, our General Manager, Finance, requires a competent Secretary to assist him in his duties. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £3,250 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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General secretarial duties including typing, filing, and answering the telephone. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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ABROAD. American family require cheerful, experienced Nanny to look after child aged six months. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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Cork. New standard required for single gentleman: pleasant, entertaining, butler and chef/chauffeur. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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Very large luxury modern flat. 3/4 bath, 1/2 bath, 1/2 bath. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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Experienced Nanny wanted to look after 2 children, 20-month-old and 4-year-old. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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Friends' restaurant of married couple. The job is a challenge and a chance to develop your skills. Salary £2,500 p.a. Write Mrs. J. The Times.

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E.C.3

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E.C.2

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Motoring

Special police unit cuts accident rate

Impressive results, including a 25 per cent reduction in accidents, are being achieved by the Metropolitan Police for work of its Accident Prevention Unit which was set up six years ago to deal with the 'black spots'.

The rationale behind the unit is that the majority of accidents in the Metropolitan Police District happen on only 10 per cent of the 8,787 miles of road. The unit concentrates on these 'black spots' where improvements cannot be made immediately.

It has eight teams, each comprising a traffic patrol officer under the command of a sergeant. All members are qualified vehicle examiners and have special knowledge of traffic patrol accident procedures.

The most effective way to police 'black spots' is an intensive two-week campaign covering morning and evening rush hours. Each team has six dedicated motor cycles and a van which can be used as a temporary office at the site and which also draws attention to the police presence.

The idea is not so much to catch offenders, although flagrant breaches of traffic law are pursued through the courts, as to advise and warn road users about their behaviour. Last year, for example, more than 22,000 fines or examples of poor road users were dealt with by the unit, of which 30,000 were resolved by a warning or advice.

Studies have shown that there is a marked improvement in road behaviour at places visited by the unit. In nearly a quarter of the number of accidents at these locations.

Black spots are discovered from reports submitted by police officers on every personal injury accident in their area. The information is fed by an accident intelligence section which prepares a league table of the bad sites, based on the number of accidents occurring in relation to the volume of traffic.

This helps to put the problem into perspective. Hyde Park Corner, for instance, has an annual injury total of 50 to 60. Bearing in mind the millions of vehicles which use it, however, the risk may not be as great as it seems at first.

The work of the unit goes beyond placing a black spot and speaking to users. It also studies the site and, where relevant, makes suggestions for improving road signs, the phasing of traffic signals, or the layout of the junction or section of road.

The Citroën GS—still a leader in its field.

Many suggestions to improve traffic flow and help public safety have been made by the team and the majority have been accepted and implemented. Scotland Yard's computer discloses that, in six years of operation, the officers of the unit have covered 1,152 locations and warned or advised 12,154 motorists and pedestrians. They have reported another 74,046 cases for proceedings, issued 25,537 fixed penalty tickets, removed 1,040 vehicles causing serious obstruction or danger, and made 993 arrests.

During 1977, the unit's first operational year, the estimated savings to the community based on the cost of road accidents was £546,000. With inflation, the present savings could be double that figure.

The need for initiatives like the accident prevention unit is underlined by the latest accident and casualty statistics. In London, in the first eight months of the year, accidents were up 6 per cent and casualties up 5.6 per cent, compared with a year ago.

Police research suggests that in a large number of cases, the rider was not directly responsible for the accident. Scotland Yard feels that many car and lorry drivers have not yet adjusted to the growing volume of two-wheeler traffic since the oil crisis.

Road test: Citroën GS special

The Citroën GS is such an outstanding car that I never feel I need an excuse for writing about it, but this time I have the smaller of the two engines, formerly 1,015cc, has been updated to 1,130cc, with extra torque and a slightly higher power output. The change may seem trivial but the effect is to remove one of the few main criticisms of the car, its fuel consumption.

Partly because the engine is one of the most seemingly unobtrusive units that invites hard driving, and partly because the GS is quite a lot of car to be pulled around by a more one-litre, consumption has tended to be on the high side. The bigger engine, however, is said to improve miles per gallon in town driving by 23 per cent (according to the official French Government test figures).

In practical terms, where once the car might have given 25 mpg in town it now gives 30 mpg or more and, although touring consumption has not been affected to the same extent, careful driving should give at least 35 mpg.

The improvement in flexibility and acceleration is only marginal but, considering the size of the engine, the car is quite nippy, with a 0 to 60 mph time of about 16 seconds and a top speed of 83 mph. For most of the time performance is quite adequate and falls short only when there is a need to overtake quickly from a low speed.

The engine, an air-cooled flat-four cylinder unit, gives the feeling that it will run for ever. It does sound busy at times and low gearings give about 4,000 rpm at 70 mph in top; but it is never harsh and the worst that happens is a loud burr when the engine is cold.

The GS set new standards for a light car when it was launched in 1970 and I would say that no one has yet caught up. The outstanding feature is the chassis, based on a gas and oil hydro-pneumatic suspension system which not only soaks up the bumps as if they did not exist, but adjusts automatically to the load carrier. Typically soft French seats enhance the feeling of travelling in a favoured armchair.

The corollary of a soft ride is handling that some might regard as soggy, with prodigious bodyroll and marked understeer when taking corners fast. Those who prefer the ultra-secure feel of, say, the Alfa Romeo Alfameo, will not buy the GS. The roadholding of the Citroën is, however, superb and will forgive many a driver who misjudges speed on a sharp bend. I find the GS enormous fun to drive but caution that passengers might not be so enthusiastic.

The all-round disc brakes are excellent, a mere touch giving a sure and progressive response, and the steering is very precise, although a little heavy and low geared for parking. The gear-box has a spring action and is, on the whole, pleasant to use but liable to be sticky first thing in the morning.

The front-wheel drive layout allows maximum passenger and luggage space inside. A four-door car, with a compact overall length of 134 ft, it seats up to five people and there is no transmission tunnel to get in the way of the middle passenger in the back. There is also an unusually big boot, square and unobstructed and with a lid reaching down to the floor.

Rake and reach adjustment for the front seats ensures a good driving position and visibility is helped by the generous window area. The ventilation system gives a good flow of air, even at low speed. My only grumble about the controls is that the choke button is in the back. There is also a gear-lever on the steering wheel and is difficult to find in the dark.

Whenever I write about this car I get letters from owners drawing attention to the high cost of spares and servicing and the way the car is taken into account. Judged purely on its merits as a vehicle, however, the GS remains, in my view, one of the best in its class and with a full standard specification the new GS Special is very competitively priced at £2,490.

Peter Waymark

Broadcasting

pm
TV
Everyone, just everyone, it seems, is visiting Canada this year. Steed, Purdey, Gambit and the New Avengers unit have been there for location shooting recently, and the first of the resulting programmes, Complex, also stars top Canadian actor Cec Linder. Hope it sells well over there!

10 pm
BC 2
As an alternative, in the wake of the Mentmore sale last May, Chronicle tries to explain to us how and why such vast collections are amassed... and broken up.—I.R.R.

BC 1
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HOME NEWS

Rail fares to rise by average of 14½ per cent in January but commuters in the South-east to pay more

By Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

Their tickets will go up by an average of 15 per cent compared with 14½ per cent for all rail passengers. However, the Price Commis-

sion, which yesterday announced approval for the rises after British Rail had argued that delay would adversely affect its finances, gave a warning that it was particularly concerned about the above-average increases in commuter fares, notably in the South-east, and said it would continue to investigate them.

"We shall be examining the efficiency of British Rail's passenger services and why the increases are weighted against commuters. As a result we may recommend that this should not happen in the future," the commission said.

No fare will rise by more than a fifth as a result of the commission's intervention. Fares on some inter-city routes where services have improved, such as those where high-speed trains are used, will go up by more than 14½ per cent.

British Rail promised yesterday to hold the January fare level for as long as possible, but gave no time limit. The rise had been contained as a result of the incomes policy, and productivity improvements of 5 per cent over the past year. But the rail unions are claiming substantially more than the 10 per cent recommended under phase three of the incomes policy from next spring. The last fare increase was an average of 12½ per cent last January, commuters in the South-east paying up to 16 per cent.

Last year's government con-

sultation document said the 280m loss on those services should be eliminated by 1981, necessitating rises of 7½ per cent on top of inflation until then. But the transport policy White Paper in June this year took a softer line, proposing that commuters should have a period of years in which to adjust to the rises.

Unless British Rail can get higher subsidies, which seems unlikely, it will always be tempted to look first to the commuters in the south-east for higher fares, because they are the nearest it has to captive customers.

INTER-CITY FARES (2nd Cl)											
Ordinary single (2nd Cl)			Day return (2nd Cl)			Weekend return (2nd Cl)			Monthly return (2nd Cl)		
From	To	Fare	From	To	Fare	From	To	Fare	From	To	Fare
London to:											
Birmingham		6.00	12.00	6.00	12.00	6.00	12.00	10.30	6.00	12.00	10.30
Bournemouth		15.35	30.70	15.35	30.70	15.35	30.70	9.00	15.35	30.70	9.00
Bristol		7.50	15.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	15.00	11.80	7.50	15.00	11.80
Cardiff		18.50	37.00	18.50	37.00	18.50	37.00	28.45	18.50	37.00	28.45
Edinburgh		16.50	33.00	16.50	33.00	16.50	33.00	28.00	16.50	33.00	28.00
Glasgow		9.20	18.40	9.20	18.40	9.20	18.40	17.05	9.20	18.40	17.05
Leeds		10.10	20.20	10.10	20.20	10.10	20.20	15.40	10.10	20.20	15.40
Liverpool		10.10	20.20	10.10	20.20	10.10	20.20	15.40	10.10	20.20	15.40
Manchester		13.40	26.80	13.40	26.80	13.40	26.80	24.10	13.40	26.80	24.10
Newcastle		15.80	31.60	15.80	31.60	15.80	31.60	9.90	15.80	31.60	9.90
Nottingham		6.60	13.20	6.60	13.20	6.60	13.20	10.55	6.60	13.20	10.55
Sheffield		8.00	16.00	8.00	16.00	8.00	16.00	12.40	8.00	16.00	12.40
York		9.20	18.40	9.20	18.40	9.20	18.40	17.05	9.20	18.40	17.05

† Economy return minimum fare of £2 applies. Economy return minimum fare of £2 applies.

Mrs Thatcher would call for resignation

Continued from page 1

There are some, well at least two, who are still very much about the whole thing, but there is not the concerted, organized opposition there was last session.

It is not easy to judge whether the confidence of the Labour whip is justified in the absence of the imposition of the confidence issue. Mr Callaghan's friends believe the Prime Minister said it all in his party conference address at Brighton when he emphasized that the Cabinet would expect the Bills to be fully supported by members of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

It is precisely because that phrasing dodges the issue of the Government's survival that some of the Labour rebels believe they can get away with voting against the Government without bringing the Government down and without discipline for themselves.

Mrs Thatcher believes likewise. She holds Mr Callaghan not to be the resigning kind. Although she would call for his resignation if he lost a key vote next week, she will not follow it up with a no-confidence motion because she believes, doubtless rightly, that it would again fail.

A number of amendments have been tabled to the Scotland Bill. The Conservative Front Bench opposes the second reading, and calls instead for a con-

sultative conference to consider Scottish aspects and implications for the rest of the kingdom.

Mr Michael English, Labour MP for Nottingham, West, has tabled an instruction for the committee stage that the Bill be extended to England "for the purposes of creating an elected assembly in each economic planning region." If the guideline motion should be defeated Mr English's instruction would be debated next.

There are now more than 50 signatories to the amendment calling for a separate referendum for the Shetland Islands, originally tabled by Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP for Pontypool. Mr Abse crossed swords with Mr Foot yesterday. He asked why Mr Foot was afraid of more debate and suggested that he was "totally failing in his duty as Leader of the House." When the Speaker ruled that conduct was not proper, Mr Abse withdrew, after substituting "pusillanimity".

Mr Pym raised Labour backing to the Commons did, the "other place" might have "an awful lot of amendments" that the Commons might never debate. Ominously Mr Pym responded to Labour growls that he hoped Mr Pym "not going to threaten us" with the Lords.

Parliamentary report, page 6

NUT denies change in Burnham

The National Union of Teachers denied yesterday that its representation on the Burnham committee was being reconsidered by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

On Wednesday, Mr Terence Casey, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said he was complaining about the NUT's overall majority on the committee. He said the NUT had 16 seats and the seven other teacher organizations had 12.

Mr Casey said the NUT's general secretary of the NUT, said yesterday that Mrs Williams had told the union that she had not asked the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service to examine the representation of the different teacher organizations on Burnham.

Mr Casey had claimed a union membership of 100,000. Mr Jarvis said an independent survey carried out by the Schools Council for 1976 showed that the in-service teacher membership for England and Wales of the NAS/UNW was 80,000 and that for the NUT was 223,900.

Mr Jarvis accused Mr Casey of making irresponsible and unfounded statements. "He shows all the frenzy of someone who realizes he is miles behind in the membership stakes."

Kitson warning 'nonsensical'

A warning by Mr Alex Kitson, a member of the Labour Party's national executive, broadcast by Moscow Radio, that a return of a Conservative government under Mrs Thatcher would restart the cold war was described by Mr John Davies, the Conservative foreign affairs spokesman, as "nonsensical" last night.

Mr Kitson has been criticized for a speech during last week's celebrations in the Soviet Union to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

According to a BBC transcript, Mr Kitson, a national officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, intervened on November 5, said it would be up to the trade union movement to ensure peaceful coexistence established in the last 12 years between Labour governments and the Soviet government.

Mr Davies said: "It is about as sensible as his of remarks in Russia. Margaret Thatcher said I have made it clear that, while having a good deal of criticism to offer about the major arms build-up of the last 12 years between Labour governments and the Soviet Union and the problems we face as a result, our purpose would be to seek to have a dialogue with them and work as far as we can towards rational living arrangements with them."

Mr Kitson also told the Soviet radio audience that what had happened in the Soviet Union had had its impact on the British working people, and I would say to their advantage.

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Life on the road with all mod cons

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

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The caravan is a peculiarly British holiday home. Although there is one West German exhibitor at the show, the fact, often repeated during yesterday's opening ceremonies, is that of 63,000 caravans sold in Britain last year only 231 were imported.

In contrast, our caravan exports to 35 different countries, were worth more than £50m. It is estimated that there are to be five million campers and caravanners in Britain, with 335,000 touring caravans, 245,000 static holiday caravans, and 95,000 mobile homes already in use.

The theme of this year's show is "the way to freedom", but as Miss Judith Chalmers, secretary of the British Caravan Association, pointed out in opening the exhibition, life for caravanners is not all leisure. At times it resembles a hectic game of musical chairs, with increasing numbers of caravanners competing for fewer pitches. There are nearly 150,000 more British caravans than six years ago, she said, but 252 fewer sites to accommodate them.

Caravans with comfortable glazing, central heating, and flush lavatories are now fairly common.

From January, the National Caravan Council and Caravan Club - associated after yesterday's opening, caravanners will be able to take their vehicles to approved centres for annual safety checks, which at £10 a time will be more than twice as expensive as MoT tests for cars, so that they can be sure their caravans are not just lavishly furnished but also safe to take on the road.

Ted Ray inquest
An inquest into the death of Ted Ray, the comedian, who died suddenly in hospital on Tuesday, at the age of 71, was opened at Hoxley, London, yesterday, and adjourned for three weeks.

Honoured for excellence



The Comité de L'Excellence Européenne honours the Hyde Park Hotel

Each year, the august Comité de L'Excellence Européenne makes awards to international organisations judged to represent outstanding examples of excellence.

This year Great Britain has distinguished itself. The HYDE PARK HOTEL, Knightsbridge, receives the coveted award, The Diploma of European Excellence.

The Hyde Park is only the second hotel in Britain to receive the Diploma.

As a member of the exclusive Golden Chain, it now joins its sister TRIST HOUSES FORTÉ HOTELS - the GEORGE V and PLAZA ATHÉNÉE in Paris, and the PIERRE in New York.

For years London's only hotel 'inside the Park' has been universally recognised for its superlative standards of hospitality. The new award is official confirmation of the Hyde Park Hotel's international status.

HYDE PARK HOTEL
Knightsbridge, London SW1. Telephone: 01-235 2000.
Hotels
Over 800 hotels worldwide.

Dismissed woman building labourer loses appeal

By Annabel Ferriman

Miss Janet Kregel, aged 24, who lost her labouring job on a London building site for swearing at her employer, lost her appeal to an employment appeal tribunal yesterday. She is now training as a bricklayer under the government training opportunities scheme.

Mr Gladstone Taylor, her employer, of South Tottenham, dismissed her in July, 1976. She appealed yesterday against an industrial tribunal's decision in May that her dismissal did not contravene the Sex Discrimination Act.

Miss Madeleine Colvin, for Miss Kregel, said the tribunal had mistakenly considered whether the dismissal was justified instead of whether a man would have been dismissed in the same circumstances.

Mr Justice Phillips upheld the tribunal's ruling that there was a difference between swearing in front of and at the employer. Miss Kregel was guilty of the latter.

Miss Kregel, who lives in Stoke Newington, belongs to a group called Women in Construction, which is committed to increasing the number of women in the building industry. The group advised her to bring a sex discrimination case against her employer.

The case illustrates clearly how the Act allows discrimination against women to continue as always, it said.

Law Report, page 13

Security guard shot in raid at bank
Surgeons were trying yesterday to save the shattered leg of Mr Alan Fitzgibbon, aged about 30, a security guard, after both barrels of a shotgun had been fired at him during a bank raid. He was shot in Barclays bank, Woodcote Road, Wokingham, Surrey, as he and a colleague approached the cash desk.

He was accused by two men who snatched two cash machines and fled. The guard had collected the money from a council rates office. A shot was fired, but no one was hurt.

'Mirror' back to normal
By Our Labour Staff
Journalists at the Daily Mirror in London voted yesterday to allow the newspaper to be produced normally until Monday, when further talks will be held with the management of Mirror Group Newspapers.

The journalists made their decision after learning that the management was prepared to negotiate the amount of pay deductions arising out of disruption of the newspaper over a pay claim.

Mr David Coleman
Mr David Coleman, the sports commentator, is to return to the BBC after settlement of a legal dispute over an alleged breach of contract.

No rush of doctors to Europe

There has been no rush of doctors from Britain to the rest of Europe with the introduction of free movement of doctors within the EEC earlier this year. Figures released by the General Medical Council yesterday suggest.

More than a thousand doctors have made inquiries about the specialist certificate needed to practise in most EEC countries, the council's figures show. Only 275 doctors applied for the EEC certificates up to October 1, and only 219 of them have so far been granted.

Of the applicants, 77 were specialists in anaesthetics and radiology, areas where Britain is short of consultants and where there is much demand in Europe.

Manpower shortage: The shortage of manpower to care for the old and the elderly mentally infirm in hospitals and in the community remains a big difficulty. Dr Edmund Woodford Williams, Director of the Health Advisory Service, says in the annual report, published today (our Health Services Correspondent writes).

In a foreword to the report Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, said Mr Morris, Under-Secretary of State with responsibility for the disabled, say they are considering ways of increasing recruitment. They include encouragement for the appointment of doctors willing to undergo further training in the specialty and more encouragement for women doctors to train.

Annual Report of the Health Advisory Service, 1976 (Stationery Office, £1.75).

British system advocated for European poll
Mr Geoffrey Rippon, leader of the Conservative delegation to the European Parliament, believes there are good "European" reasons for Britain retaining its "first-past-the-post" system for the first direct elections to that assembly.

In a foreword to a new Conservative Group for Europe pamphlet on the role of the European Parliament, Mr Rippon argues that the closer the ties that bind members to the people who elect them, the more effective Parliament will be.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts Warm Cold Occluded
Sun rises: 7.12 am. Sun sets: 4.17 pm.
Moon rises: 7.5 am. Moon sets: 9.47 pm.
New Moon: 7.5 am.
Lighting up: 4.47 pm to 6.43 am.
High water: London Bridge: 1.10 am, 7.6m (24.9ft); 1.28 pm, 7.6m (25.1ft); Avonmouth: 6.55 am, 13.6m (44.7ft); 7.16 pm, 13.9m (45.2ft). Dover: 10.51 am, 7m (22.9ft); 10.57 pm, 7m (22.9ft). Hull: 5.32 am, 7.6m (24.9ft); 6.0 pm, 7.6m (24.9ft); Liverpool: 10.48 am, 9.7m (32ft); 11.5 pm, 9.7m (32ft).

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